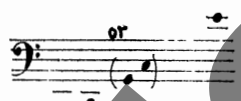
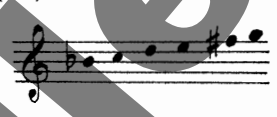
NOTES

1. Instrumentation

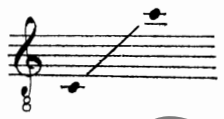
Flute, doubling alto flute
Clarinet, doubling bass clarinet
Percussion (one player):
Chimes
Tambourine
Glass wind chimes
Marimba
Three gongs, tuned



Crotales, mounted on stand



Suspended cymbal
Glockenspiel
Piano



Tenor
Violin
Viola
Cello

2. All instruments sound as written in the score except that crotales and glockenspiel sound two octaves higher.

3. The given tempi are only intended as guidelines.

Copying is illegal
Review copy only

1. July 18, 1846, *crossing the Great Divide.*

An end or a beginning.
is this the place where being separates
from itself the precise moment
the space between pulse and pulse

at one instant we are moving towards:
transporting the furniture of our lives
bringing the particularities of one existence
to an imagined point where we are taken in
formalized justified like an embrace
without an end

but no love is so final merely
having traced ourselves back to our
Atlantic beginnings
we change from source to source
leap to a new love plunging westward
where once we looked backward all the way

now hesitant among the mountains
we pass across the invisible boundary
that divides self from self
and move forward heartlong towards the other sea
a twin
a mirror of ourselves

Ruth Whitman
in *Tamsen Donner: A Woman's Journey*, © 1977 by Ruth Whitman.
Published by Alice James Books, Cambridge
Used by permission of the author.

2. That Sensual Phosphorescence

That 'sensual phosphorescence
my youth delighted in'

now lies almost behind me
like a land of dreams
wherein an angel
of hot sleep
dances like a diva
in strange veils
thru which desire
looks and cries

And still she dances
dances still

and still she comes
at me
with breathing breasts
and secret lips

and (ah)

bright eyes

Lawrence Ferlinghetti
in *A Coney Island of the Mind*

Lawrence Ferlinghetti, A CONEY ISLAND OF THE MIND. Copyright © 1958 by Lawrence Ferlinghetti. Reprinted by permission of New Directions Publishing Corporation.

3. Meticulous, Past Midnight

Meticulous, past midnight in clear rime,
Infrangible and lonely, smooth as though cast
Together in one merciless white blade—
The bay estuaries fleck the hard sky limits.

—As if too brittle or too clear to touch!
The cables of our sleep so swiftly filed,
Already hang, shred ends from remembered stars.
One frozen trackless smile . . . What words
Can strangle this deaf moonlight? For we

Are overtaken. Now no cry, no sword
Can fasten or deflect this tidal wedge,
Slow tyranny of moonlight, moonlight loved
And changed . . . "There's

Nothing like this in the world," you say,
Knowing I cannot touch your hand and look
Too, into that godless cleft of sky
Where nothing turns but dead sands flashing.

"—And never to quite understand!" No,
In all the argosy of your bright hair I dreamed
Nothing so flagless as this piracy.

But now
Draw in your head, alone and too tall here.
Your eyes already in the slant of drifting foam;
Your breath sealed by the ghosts I do not know:
Draw in your head and sleep the long way home.

Hart Crane
Voyages, Part V

"Part V" of *Voyages* by Hart Crane from THE COMPLETE POEMS AND SELECTED LETTERS AND PROSE OF HART CRANE, edited by Brom Weber, is set to music with the permission of Liveright Publishing Corporation. Copyright 1933, © 1958, 1966 by Liveright Publishing Corporation.

4. Danse Russe

If when my wife is sleeping
and the baby and Kathleen
are sleeping
and the sun is a flame-white disc
in silken mists
above shining trees,—
if I in my north room
dance naked, grotesquely
before my mirror
waving my shirt round my head
and singing softly to myself:
"I am lonely, lonely.
I was born to be lonely,
I am best so!"
If I admire my arms, my face,
my shoulders, flanks, buttocks
against the yellow drawn shades,—

Who shall say I am not
the happy genius of my household?

William Carlos Williams
Danse Russe

William Carlos Williams, COLLECTED EARLIER POEMS. Copyright 1938 by New Directions Publishing Corporation. Reprinted by permission of New Directions.

5. Math

Numbers who can't ever hear me
I'll say it anyway
All the way from my age-old school. You're still in my heart,
And I can feel you go through there
Like a clean sea-wave. I breathed-in, instinctively,
From the one-two, one-two counts
Of the soft-rocking cradle

As drinking from a universal spring
older than the sun:

Numbers. There is this wave of matched, watched numbers
In my school-soul. Sometimes it is like smoke: I can't get through it.
Sometimes I believe that you've put put in place of my heart
Inhuman logic. Coldness
beyond bearing. And yet . . . because of you

By your face like tapestry
thinning exploding
The depth-imploded isinglass eye
west of Greenwich and shocked
Into latitude into the sea-birds' winged sea tonnage of shifting silence now
Freed to the unleashed Time
And timing of coordinates· all-solid light:

Pierceable sun its flash-folded counterpart beneath
By the billion: word: in one leap the layers,

The slant ladder of soundlessness: word: world: sea:
Flight partaking of tunnels fins, of quills and airfoils:
Word: unwitnessed numbers nailed noon enchanted three minutes
Of the sun's best effort of height this space time this
Hang-period meridian passage:
Sing.

James Dickey
Math in *The Strength of Fields*, Doubleday, Garden City, 1979
Used by permission of the author.

Copyright Review Copy only Illegal

CROSSING THE MERIDIAN

For the Boston Musica Viva,
Richard Pittman, conductor

1. July 18, 1846, crossing the Great Divide
(Ruth Whitman)

Ronald Perera (1982)

Crystalline ♩= 116

Flute
Clarinet*
Chimes
Piano
Tenor
Violin
Viola
Cello

mf
p
(loco)
Ped.
8va
(Ped.)
6
ppp
sul C
pizz.
f
mf
mp
An end
11
f marc
arco
sub p

*sounds as written
†Depending on room acoustic, each fermata should be held 3-4 ♩ s.

© Copyright 1982 by E. C. Schirmer Music Company, Inc.,
a division of ECS Publishing Group. www.ecspublishing.com
All rights reserved.

Copying is illegal
Review copy only

Flute
Clarinet
Chimes
Piano
Tenor
Violin
Viola
Cello

1"

p

(8va)

Ped.

or a be - gin - ning,

14

(non trem.)

(8va)

(Ped.)

is this the place where be - ing se - par-ates

non trem

pizz

pizz.

Copying is illegal
Review copy only

(Ped.)

from it - self the pre - cise mo - ment

20

arco

arco

arco

the space be - tween pulse and

warm

warm

warm

pizz.

pizz.

pizz

Copying is illegal
Review copy only

(♩= 58) L'istesso tempo

mf dim

mf Ped. dim. Ped.

mf

pulse

29

(♩= 58) L'istesso tempo

arco mf dim.

arco mf 7:4 7 dim

arco mf dim.

mp 7

mfp

pp, dry

p

p

p

p

Copying is illegal
Review copy only

(mp)

2/4 (mp)

p

mf, bright, and slightly accented

at one in - stant we are mov - ing towards

36

mp

pizz.

mf

3/4 8va

trans - port-ing the fur - ni - ture of our lives

4/4

3/4

arco

mp

Copying is illegal
Review copy only

mf

mf

mf

— bring - ing the par - tic - u - lar - i - ties of one ex - ist - ence to an im - ag - ined point —

45

mf

mf

mf

(mf)

(mf)

(mf)

— where we are ta - ken in —

51

p

p

p

Copying is illegal
Review copy only

2. That Sensual Phosphorescence
(Lawrence Ferlinghetti)

Shadowy; fleeting ♩ = 48; ♩ = 96

Alto Flute (sounding)

Bass Clar. (sounding)

Tamb.

Percussion

(struck)

Tenor

That 'sen -

poco cresc.

- - - su - al phos - phor - es - cence my youth de - light - ed in' —

flutter

now lies al -

Copying is illegal
Review copy only

poco cresc.

mf sub.p

mp

most be - hind me_ like a land of dreams_

pp echo

pp echo

strictly in tempo

mf cresc f mf cresc f

17

ppp pp

20

where - in an an - - - - gel_ of hot

Copyright Review Only

sleep

dan - -

ces

like a dı - va

26

in

strange

poco cresc

veıls

through whıch de - sıre looks

Copyrighted Material
Review copy only

dim

dim

p

and cries

p

(Tamb)

p

mf

37

p

and still she dan - ces

p

dan - ces still

44

and still she

Copying is illegal
Review copy only

3. Meticulous, Past Midnight
(Hart Crane)

Piano

Lonely; dreamlike (♪= 72)

(♪= ♪) *quasi senza misura*

8va

ppp

(Ped. on each chord change, ad libitum)

Tenor

Violin

Viola

Cello

Lonely; dreamlike (♪= 72)

(♪= ♪) *quasi senza misura*

sord.

pp

p

ppp

Piano

a battuta

quasi senza misura

8va

ppp

Viola

a battuta

quasi senza misura

pp

p

sul C

Piano

a battuta

8va

pp

Tenor

pp inward

Me - ti - cu - lous, past mid - night in clear rime, In -

p

pp

13

Viola

a battuta

pp

Copying is illegal
Preview only

8va

p

mp

mf

fran - gi-ble and lone - ly, smooth as though cast to-geth-er with one mer - ci - less white

blade—

The bay es - tu - ar-ies fleck the hard sky

mp

pp

8va

pp, crisply

mp

Ped.

*

pp

lim - its.

pp half sung, half whispered

—As if too brit - tle or too clear to touch!

25

via sord

ppp

Copying is illegal
Review copy only

Tenor

(sung) p

The ca - bles of our sleep so swift - ly filed,

Violin

Viola

Cello

pp senza sord

p

pp

Al - read - y hang, shred ends from re - mem-bered stars. One

mp

3

35

Piano

Poco rallentando

mf

Tenor

poco cresc.

fro - zen track - less smile . What words can stran - gle

Violin

Viola

Cello

poco cresc

mf, en dehors

Copying is illegal
Preview only

A tempo (♪= 72)

accel m

mf lv

pp half sung, half whispered

this deaf moon - light?

For we are ov-er-tak-en.

41

A tempo (♪= 72)

pp

pp

f

(Ped.)

* Ped. ad lib.

f anguished

(sung)

Now no cry, no sword

45

Copying is illegal
Review copy only

non cresc

dim.

ppp

p

mp

Can fas - ten or de - flect this ti - dal wedge,

(V)

Slow

51

Tenor

ty - ran - ny of moon - light,

moon - light

Violin

Viola

Cello

loved and changed . .

p parlando

"There's Noth-ing like this in the world,"

you say,

Copying is illegal
Review copy only

4. Danse Russe
(William Carlos Williams)

Zany (♪= 264; ♩. = 88)

B♭ Clarinet
(sounding)

Marimba

Tenor

If when my wife is sleep - ing and the ba - by and Kath - leen are sleep - ing

and the sun is a flame - white disc in sil - ken mists a -

Copying is illegal
Review only

cresc

cresc

f

f

mf

bove shin - ing trees,—

sub pp

sub. pp legato

sf

sf

pp

21

p

mf

if I in my north room dance na - ked gro - tesque - ly

(pp)

27

be - fore my mir - ror wav - ing my shirt round my head and

mf

pp

cresc

cresc.

p

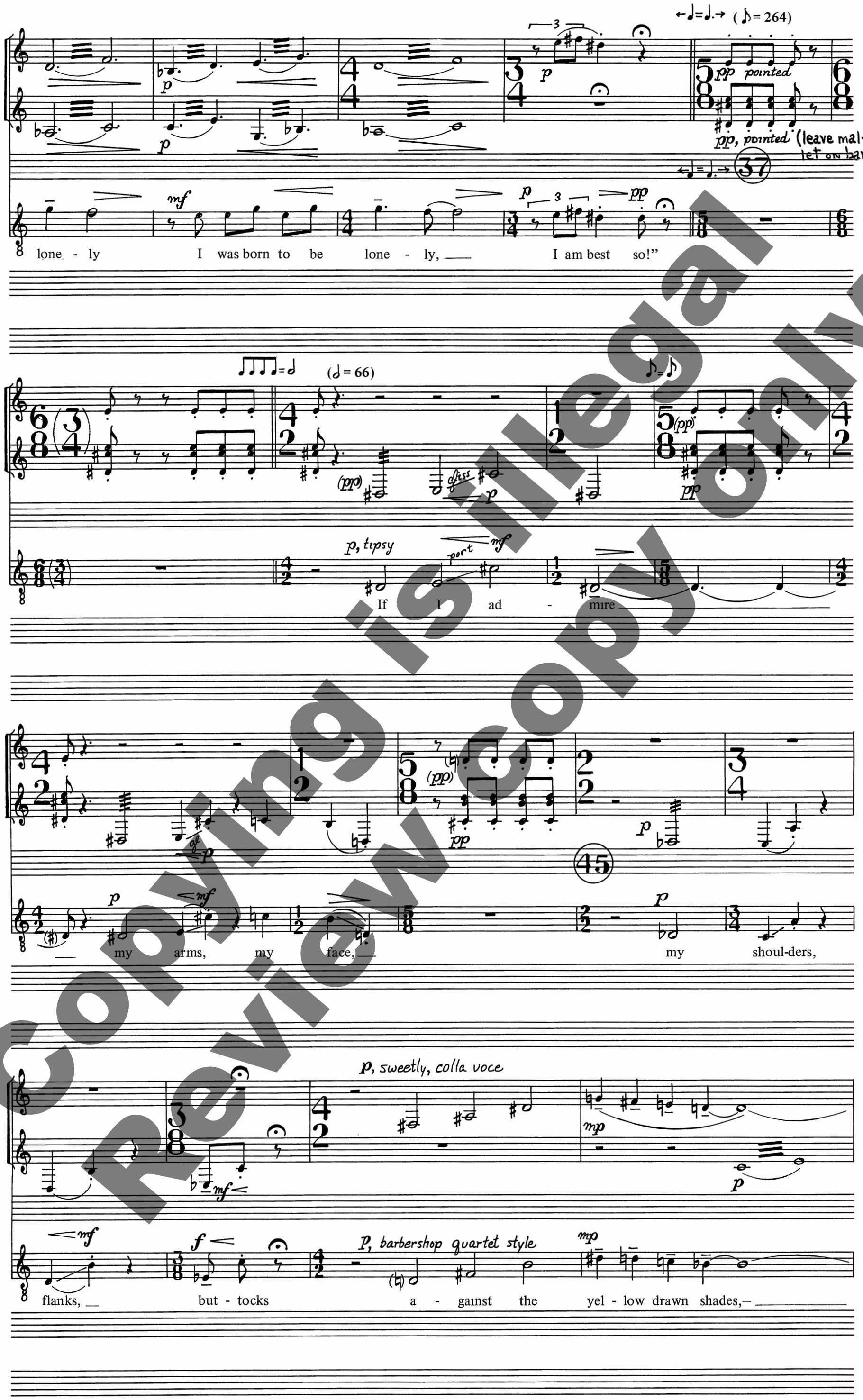
p

(♩= 88)

32

sing - ing soft - ly to my - self. "I am lone - ly,

Copying is illegal
Review only



Copying is illegal
Review copy only

♪=♪ (♩ = 132)

ppp

in 𝄆

ppp

ppp

p, lyrically

mp

p lyrically

mp

p

52

p, lyrically

who shall say

p

mp

mp

mp

I am not the hap - py gen -

mf

mf

f

f

sub p poco a poco

sub p poco a poco

62

- ius of my house - hold?

cresc

f

Stringendo

cresc

cresc

(f)

(f)

ff

ff

fff

fff

ff

Copying is illegal
Review copy only

5. Math
(James Dickey)

The voice freely, like an improvization, the instruments like a clockwork

♩= 60-63

Flute

Clarinet

Percussion — Gongs (always) — Crotales (soundng 15ma)

Piano

Tenor

♩= 60-63

Violin — sord — Sul II, con portamento, senza vib.

Viola

Cello

Percussion — l.v.

Piano

Tenor — pp, quasi sotto voce

Num - bers_ who can't ev-er hear_ me I'll ___ say it an - y - way

5

Violin

Viola

Cello

*Silently depress boxed notes, and hold with Sostenuto Pedal until sign †.
**Must be played loudly enough to ring through until next attack.
†Should sound like "tape echo" in electronic music, number of repeats (but not their speed) is approximate.

Copying is illegal
Review copy only

Percussion

Piano

Tenor

Violin

Gongs

Crotales

mp

p

mf niente

sim.

11 : 8

9 . 8

mp

(Peds.)

3

All the way from my age_ old school.

pp

5

7 : 4

You're still in my heart,

3 3 3

And I can feel you go through there like a

11

mf niente sim

11 : 8

9 . 8

5

clean sea - wave.

Copying is illegal
Review only

Gongs

mp

Ped.

I breathed in, in-stinc-tive - ly, From the one - two, one-two counts Of the soft-rock-ing cra - dle

16

Crotales

p

mf 9:8 niente

Sim 5

7:4

11:8

release Sost. and Damper Peds.

mp

As drink - ing from a un - i - ver-sal spring old-er than the sun

gently dampen percussion

(depress silently, hold until †)

poco sf

22

*The bass notes must be struck incisively enough so that their harmonics ring clearly (except for the f#).

Copying is illegal
Review copy only

Flute

Clarinet

Percussion

Piano

Tenor

Violin

Viola

Cello

subtone

ppp

pp

l.h sweeps strings

mf

p (modo ord)

5

Num - bers.

25

sord.

gliss sul D pp

gliss. sul C

sord

gliss sord

sul C

pp

6

p

Crotales

mp

mf

(l.h. sweeps strings)

on keys

poco sf

3

There is this wave of matched, watched num-bers in my school - soul.

*Repeat continuously, varying speed of glissando. Not in tempo.

Note to conductor. Strings at (25) should form a continuous background texture of glissando harmonics. The repeating figures should not be in tempo!

Copying is illegal
Preview only

poco cresc.

on strings mf

on keys

poco cresc.

Some-times it is like smoke I can't get through it

30

on strings

p

mp

Some - times I be - lieve that you've

34

Copying is illegal
Review copy only