

Three Verses of Emily Dickinson

Texts by Emily Dickinson

Music by Stuart P. O'Neil

1. It Struck Me Every Day

Troubled, with Grief ♩ = 104 *mp*

It struck me ev-ery day the light-ning was as new, As

It struck me ev-ery day the light-ning was as new, As

It struck me ev-ery day the light-ning was as new, As

5 *cresc* *f* *dim* *mf*

if the cloud that in - stant slit and let the fire through. It

if the cloud that in - stant slit and let the fire through. It

if the cloud that in - stant slit and let the fire through. It

cresc *f* *dim* *mf*

Three Verses of Emily Dickinson – 2 –

9

cresc

burned me in the night it blist - ered to my dream, It sick - ened fresh up - on my sight with

cresc

burned me in the night it blist - ered to my dream, It sick - ened fresh up - on my sight with

cresc

burned me in the night it blist - ered to my dream, It sick - ened fresh up - on my sight with

ff

12

ff

ev - ery morn that came.

ff

ev - ery morn that ev - ery morn that ev - ery morn that came.

ff

ev - every ev - ery morn that morn that came.

dim

dim

dim

dim

Three Verses of Emily Dickinson – 3 –

15

p

I thought that storm was brief, _____ the mad-dest quick-est by, _____

p

I thought that storm was brief, _____ the mad-dest quick-est by, _____

p

I thought that storm was brief, _____ the mad-dest quick-est by, _____

19

rall

_____ But na - ture lost the date of this and left it in the sky.

rall

_____ But na - ture lost the date of this and left it in the sky.

rall

_____ But na - ture lost the date of this and left it in the sky.

2. She Went as Quiet as the Dew

Haunted, with Persistence ♩ = 64-68

The musical score is written for voice and piano in 4/4 time. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The tempo is marked 'Haunted, with Persistence' with a quarter note equal to 64-68 beats per minute. The score is divided into three systems, each containing vocal staves and piano accompaniment.

First System: The piano introduction begins with a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble staff has a key signature change from two flats to one flat (B-flat). The bass staff starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The music is in 4/4 time.

Second System: The vocal staves enter at measure 4. The lyrics are: "She went as quiet as the dew from an accustomed". The piano accompaniment continues. Dynamics include *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *poco cresc* (poco crescendo).

Third System: The vocal staves continue with the lyrics: "flow - er. Not like the dew, did she re - turn". The piano accompaniment continues. Dynamics include *poco cresc* and *mp*.

Three Verses of Emily Dickinson – 5 –

11 *dim*

at the ac - cust - omed hour! _____

dim

at the ac - cust - omed hour! _____

dim

at the ac - cust - omed hour! _____

dim *molto cresc*

14 *f*

She dropt as soft - ly as a star _____

f

She dropt as soft - ly as a star _____

f

She dropt as soft - ly as a star _____

f

Three Verses of Emily Dickinson – 6 –

16

from out my sum - mer's eve—

from out my sum - mer's eve—

from out my sum - mer's eve—

The musical score for measures 16-17 features three vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts are in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are "from out my sum - mer's eve—". The piano accompaniment consists of a right hand with a flowing sixteenth-note melody and a left hand with a simple harmonic accompaniment. A triplet of eighth notes is marked in the right hand of the piano part in measure 17.

18

Less skill - ful than Le Ver - ri -

Less skill - ful than Le Ver - ri -

Less skill - ful than Le Ver - ri -

The musical score for measures 18-19 features three vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts are in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are "Less skill - ful than Le Ver - ri -". The piano accompaniment consists of a right hand with a flowing sixteenth-note melody and a left hand with a simple harmonic accompaniment. Triplet markings are present in the right hand of the piano part in measures 18 and 19.

Three Verses of Emily Dickinson – 7 –

20

poco dim et rit *p*

ere _____ it's sor - er to be -

poco dim et rit *p*

ere _____ it's sor - er to be -

poco dim et rit *p*

ere _____ it's sor - er to be -

poco dim et rit *p*

23

lieve! _____

lieve! _____

lieve! _____

a tempo *rall*

3. I Died for Beauty but was Scarce

Calm, with Acceptance ♩ = 76

mp *unis*

I died for Beau - ty

mp

con pedale

4

but was scarce ad - just - ed in the tomb, When one who died for

8

Truth was lain in an ad - join - ing room.

poco cresc

The musical score is written for a single voice and piano. The key signature is D major (two sharps). The time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'Calm, with Acceptance' with a quarter note equal to 76 beats per minute. The score is divided into three systems, each with a measure number (1, 4, 8) at the beginning. The first system ends with a repeat sign. The second system ends with a repeat sign. The third system ends with a repeat sign. The piano part is marked 'con pedale'. The dynamics include 'mp' (mezzo-piano) and 'poco cresc' (poco crescendo). The vocal line is in a single voice part, with lyrics in English. The piano part consists of a steady eighth-note bass line and a treble line with chords and moving lines.

Three Verses of Emily Dickinson – 9 –

11

mf

He quest - ioned soft - ly "Why I failed"? "For

mf

He quest - ioned soft - ly "Why I failed"? "For

mf

He quest - ioned soft - ly "Why I failed"? "For

14

Beau - ty" I re - plied, "And I for Truth them -

Beau - ty" I re - plied, "And I for Truth them -

Beau - ty" I re - plied, "And I for I for Truth

Three Verses of Emily Dickinson – 10 –

17

self are one, We brethe-ren are," he said.

self are one, We brethe - ren are," he said.

self are one, We brethe-ren are," he said.

The musical score for measures 17-20 features three vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts are in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The piano accompaniment is in G major, with the right hand in treble clef and the left hand in bass clef. The time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "self are one, We brethe-ren are," he said.

21

p unis
And so, as Kins - men met a night we

The musical score for measures 21-24 features three vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts are in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The piano accompaniment is in G major, with the right hand in treble clef and the left hand in bass clef. The time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "And so, as Kins - men met a night we". The dynamic marking *p unis* is present at the beginning of the section.

25

S1, S2

talked be - tween the rooms, _____ Un - til the moss had reached our

A
talked be - tween the rooms, _____ Un - til the moss had reached our

The musical score for measures 25-28 features three vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The vocal parts are in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The piano accompaniment is in G major, with the right hand in treble clef and the left hand in bass clef. The time signature is 2/4. The lyrics are: "talked be - tween the rooms, _____ Un - til the moss had reached our". The dynamic marking *A* is present at the beginning of the section.

Three Verses of Emily Dickinson – 11 –

29 *3-pt div* *4-pt div*

S1 *And*

lips, _____ *And* cov - ered up _____ *Al*

S2

lips, _____ *And* cov - ered up _____

lips, _____

32 *poco rit* *cov-ered up* *pp* *3-pt div*

poco rit *pp* our names. _____

poco rit *A2* *pp* our names. _____

And cov-ered up *our* *names.* _____

poco rit *pp* *rit et morendo*