

Darwin's Meditation for the People of Lincoln

a quartet concerto for actor, singer, violin, keyboard, and chamber orchestra

ACT I: Looking Back

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Introduction

The firing over her grave. That scene deeply stirred whatever poetic fancy there was in me. The firing over her grave. She died, my mother. I was eight years old, and it is odd. I can remember hardly anything except her death-bed, her black velvet gown, her curiously constructed work-table, and the firing over her grave. God bless my mother. All that I am or ever hope to be, I owe to her. My heart was buried with her. The mystery of the beginning and end of all things is... *(Cue for music)*

Scene 1: A Boy to God

2 Moderately (♩ = 100)

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hrn.

Trpt.

Trbn.

Dr. Kit

Bs. Guit.

Actor

Singer

Vln. Solo

Kybd.

1 As a boy I often had to run very quickly to be in time. I prayed earnestly to God to help me and marveled at how I was aided.

Moderately (♩ = 100)

Vln. I/A

Vln. I/B

Vln. I/C

Vln. I/D

Vln. II/A

Vln. II/B

Vln. II/C

Va. A

Va. B

Vcl. A

Vcl. B

Cb.

10

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hrn.

Trpt.

Trbn.

Dr. Kit

Bs. Guit.

Actor

Singer

Vln. Solo

Kybd.

Vln. I/A

Vln. I/B

Vln. I/C

Vln. I/D

Vln. II/A

Vln. II/B

Vln. II/C

Va. A

Va. B

Vcl. A

Vcl. B

Cb.

② I attributed my success to the prayers and not to my quick running. It never struck me how illogical to believe what I could not understand.

③ Considering how fiercely I have been attacked by the orthodox it seems ludicrous to consider I once intended to be a clergyman. But now it seems to me attributing to God the feelings of a revengeful tyrant

18

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hrn.

Trpt.

Trbn.

Dr. Kit

Bs. Guit.

Actor

Singer

Vln. Solo

Kybd.

Vln. I/A

Vln. I/B

Vln. I/C

Vln. I/D

Vln. II/A

Vln. II/B

Vln. II/C

Va. A

Va. B

Vcl. A

Vcl. B

Cb.

is no more to be trusted than the beliefs of any barbarian. How can anyone ought to wish Christianity to be true when those who do not believe are everlastingly punished?

4 This would include my father, my brother, almost all my best friends and my Anne, my Annie.

p

mf

pp

26

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hrn.

Trpt.

Trbn.

Dr. Kit

Bs. Guit.

Actor

Singer

Vln. Solo

Kybd.

Vln. I/A

Vln. I/B

Vln. I/C

Vln. I/D

Vln. II/A

Vln. II/B

Vln. II/C

Va. A

Va. B

Vcl. A

Vcl. B

Cb.

(5) And my Anne, my Annie.

mf

pp

p

p

36

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hrn.

Trpt.

Trbn.

Dr. Kit

Bs. Guit.

Actor

Singer

Vln. Solo

Kybd.

Vln. I/A

Vln. I/B

Vln. I/C

Vln. I/D

Vln. II/A

Vln. II/B

Vln. II/C

Va. A

Va. B

Vcl. A

Vcl. B

Cb.

1 My Anne, my Annie.

2 The Haitian National Anthem, spoken or sung:
Pour le Pays, pour la Patrie, Marchons unis,
pp

mf

p

pp

46

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hrn.

Trpt.

Trbn.

Dr. Kit

Bs. Guit.

Actor

Singer *marchons unis. Dans nos rangs point de traîtres, du sol soyons seuls maîtres!*

Vln. Solo

Kybd.

Vln. I/A

Vln. I/B

Vln. I/C

Vln. I/D

Vln. II/A

Vln. II/B

Vln. II/C

Va. A

Va. B

Vcl. A

Vcl. B

Cb.

56

Fl. *pp*

Ob. *pp*

Cl. *pp*

Hrn. *pp*

Trpt. *pp*

Trbn. *pp*

Dr. Kit Cr. Cym. *mp*

Bs. Guit.

Actor **3** The firing over her grave. That scene deeply stirred whatever poetic fancy there was in me. **4** The firing over her grave.

Singer

Vln. Solo

Kybd.

Vln. I/A *pp*

Vln. I/B

Vln. I/C

Vln. I/D

Vln. II/A

Vln. II/B

Vln. II/C

Va. A

Va. B

Vcl. A

Vcl. B

Cb.

66

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hrn.

Trpt.

Trbn.

Dr. Kit

Bs. Guit.

Actor

Singer

Vln. Solo

Kybd.

Vln. I/A

Vln. I/B

Vln. I/C

Vln. I/D

Vln. II/A

Vln. II/B

Vln. II/C

Va. A

Va. B

Vcl. A

Vcl. B

Cb.

f

ff

76

Scene 2: Anne, Annie

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hrn.

Trpt.

Trbn.

Dr. Kit

Bs. Guit.

Actor

Singer

Vln. Solo

Kybd.

Vln. I/A

Vln. I/B

Vln. I/C

Vln. I/D

Vln. II/A

Vln. II/B

Vln. II/C

Va. A

Va. B

Vcl. A

Vcl. B

Cb.

5 I hope that I may die before my mind fails to a sensible extent.

84

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hrn.

Trpt.

Trbn.

Dr. Kit

Bs. Guit.

Actor

Singer

Vln. Solo

Kybd.

Vln. I/A

Vln. I/B

Vln. I/C

Vln. I/D

Vln. II/A

Vln. II/B

Vln. II/C

Va. A

Va. B

Vcl. A

Vcl. B

Cb.

① I have attempted to write the following account of myself as if I were a dead man in another world looking back at my own life.

② As a boy I often had to run very quickly to be in time. I prayed earnestly to God to help me and marveled at how I was aided.

93

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hrn.

Trpt.

Trbn.

Dr. Kit

Bs. Guit.

Actor

Singer

Vln. Solo

Kybd.

Vln. I/A

Vln. I/B

Vln. I/C

Vln. I/D

Vln. II/A

Vln. II/B

Vln. II/C

Va. A

Va. B

Vcl. A

Vcl. B

Cb.

3 I attributed my success to the prayers and not to my quick running. It never struck me how illogical to believe what I could not understand.

100

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hrn.

Trpt.

Trbn.

Dr. Kit

Bs. Guit.

Actor

Singer

Vln. Solo

Kybd.

Vln. I/A

Vln. I/B

Vln. I/C

Vln. I/D

Vln. II/A

Vln. II/B

Vln. II/C

Va. A

Va. B

Vcl. A

Vcl. B

Cb.

4 Considering how fiercely I have been attacked by the orthodox it seems ludicrous to consider I once intended to be clergyman.

5 But now it seems to me attributing to God the feelings of a revengeful tyrant is no more to be trusted than the beliefs of any barbarian.

108

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hrn.

Trpt.

Trbn.

Dr. Kit

Bs. Guit.

Actor

Singer

Vln. Solo

Kybd.

Vln. I/A

Vln. I/B

Vln. I/C

Vln. I/D

Vln. II/A

Vln. II/B

Vln. II/C

Va. A

Va. B

Vcl. A

Vcl. B

Cb.

1 How can anyone ought to wish Christianity to be true when those who do not believe are everlastingly punished?

114

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hrn.

Trpt.

Trbn.

Dr. Kit

Bs. Guit.

Actor

Singer

Vln. Solo

Kybd.

Vln. I/A

Vln. I/B

Vln. I/C

Vln. I/D

Vln. II/A

Vln. II/B

Vln. II/C

Va. A

Va. B

Vcl. A

Vcl. B

Cb.

2 This would include my father, my brother, almost all my best friends and my Anne, my Annie.

3 And my Anne, my Annie.

f

f

f

f

f

f

124

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hrn.

Trpt.

Trbn.

Dr. Kit

Bs. Guit.

Actor

Singer

Vln. Solo

Kybd.

Vln. I/A

Vln. I/B

Vln. I/C

Vln. I/D

Vln. II/A

Vln. II/B

Vln. II/C

Va. A

Va. B

Vcl. A

Vcl. B

Cb.

4 That scene deeply stirred whatever poetic fancy there was in me. The firing over her grave. Her name was Anne...Annie.

134

This page of a musical score, numbered 134, features a variety of instruments. The woodwind section includes Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Horn (Hrn.), Trumpet (Trpt.), and Trombone (Trbn.), all of which begin playing in the fourth measure with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The percussion section consists of Snare Drum (Sn. Dr.), Fl. Tom, and Bass Drum (Bs. Dr.), with the Sn. Dr. and Fl. Tom playing a rhythmic pattern and the Bs. Dr. playing a single note in the fourth measure. The Bass Guitar (Bs. Guit.) plays a melodic line starting in the second measure. The string section includes a Violin Soloist (Vln. Solo), a Keyboardist (Kybd.), and sections of Violin I (Vln. I/A, I/B, I/C, I/D), Violin II (Vln. II/A, II/B, II/C), Viola (Va. A, Va. B), Violoncello (Vcl. A, Vcl. B), and Contrabass (Cb.). The Violin Soloist, Keyboardist, and Viola parts begin in the second measure, while the Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Contrabass parts begin in the fourth measure. The score is written in a key signature of one flat and a 4/4 time signature.

139

This page of the musical score, rehearsal mark 139, features a variety of instruments. The woodwinds (Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Horn, Trumpet, Trombone) and strings (Violin I/A-D, Violin II/A-C, Viola A-B, Violoncello A-B, Contrabass) are mostly silent, indicated by whole rests. The Drums (Dr. Kit) play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The Bass Guitar (Bs. Guit.) and Violin Solo (Vln. Solo) play melodic lines. The Keyboard (Kybd.) provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines. The Actor and Singer parts are empty.

144

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hrn.

Trpt.

Trbn.

Dr. Kit

Bs. Guit.

Actor

Singer

Vln. Solo

Kybd.

Vln. I/A

Vln. I/B

Vln. I/C

Vln. I/D

Vln. II/A

Vln. II/B

Vln. II/C

Va. A

Va. B

Vcl. A

Vcl. B

Cb.

mp

f

sub. pp

sub. pp

sub. pp

sub. pp

sub. pp

sub. pp

149

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hrn.

Trpt.

Trbn.

Dr. Kit

Bs. Guit.

Actor

Singer

Vln. Solo

Kybd.

Vln. I/A

Vln. I/B

Vln. I/C

Vln. I/D

Vln. II/A

Vln. II/B

Vln. II/C

Va. A

Va. B

Vcl. A

Vcl. B

Cb.

5 Her name was Anne...Annie. Just over ten years old, she was a sweet

154

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hrn.

Trpt.

Trbn.

Dr. Kit

Bs. Guit.

Actor

Singer

Vln. Solo

Kybd.

Vln. I/A

Vln. I/B

Vln. I/C

Vln. I/D

Vln. II/A

Vln. II/B

Vln. II/C

Va. A

Va. B

Vcl. A

Vcl. B

Cb.

and affectionate child. would have grown to be a delightful woman. When I think of her sweet ways. And the firing over her grave...the remaining crumbles of my heart fall like tears

mp

p

f

mp

159

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hrn.

Trpt.

Trbn.

Dr. Kit

Bs. Guit.

Actor

Singer

Vln. Solo

Kybd.

Vln. I/A

Vln. I/B

Vln. I/C

Vln. I/D

Vln. II/A

Vln. II/B

Vln. II/C

Va. A

Va. B

Vcl. A

Vcl. B

Cb.

from my eyes.

p

mp

pp

164

Fl.

Ob.

Cl.

Hrn.

Trpt.

Trbn.

Dr. Kit

Bs. Guit.

Actor

Singer

Vln. Solo

Kybd.

Vln. I/A

Vln. I/B

Vln. I/C

Vln. I/D

Vln. II/A

Vln. II/B

Vln. II/C

Va. A

Va. B

Vcl. A

Vcl. B

Cb.

1 Four score and seven years ago my heart began to break and for a while I did not know what it means to be free.