

The Benediction

Words and music by
Mark Abel

$\text{♩} = 110$

with deep sincerity

Tenor

From sea to shin-ing sea...

Piano

mp

3

7

Ev-er-green__ cliffs lean in-to the Pa - ci - fic,___

3

3

*stronger,
almost mf*

13

be-neath a lead-en sky___ where a-vo-cets play

3

18 **Suddenly faster** $\text{♩} = 154$

a-long the strand that stretch-es for - ev - er. Glad to be a

3

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23

gradually increase intensity

live! I sense a build-ing tide sweep - ing

Musical notation for measures 23-26, including vocal line and piano accompaniment.

27

a - cross a dis - con - ten - ted land that needs

Musical notation for measures 27-30, including vocal line and piano accompaniment.

31

re new - al. When the change comes,

Musical notation for measures 31-33, including vocal line and piano accompaniment with triplets.

34

Much slower ♩ = 100

who will be read-y? Who will be

Musical notation for measures 34-37, including vocal line and piano accompaniment with triplets and a pedal section.

with pedal

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38

read - y?... Throw a-way your eas-y ans - wers,

PERUSAL SCORE

42

they will not help you now.____

A little bit faster

*a little softer
senza pedal*

DO NOT PRINT

47

pull back

Rol - ling a-long a Dix - ie high - way, kud - zu____

50

____ cloak-ing the tal - lest trees.____

with pedal *senza pedal* *with pedal* *senza pedal*

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53

almost spoken

A place _____ of ghosts, pin - ey woods

8

8^{vb}

Detailed description: This system contains measures 53, 54, and 55. The vocal line is in treble clef with a 7/8 time signature. The piano accompaniment consists of two staves: the right hand in treble clef and the left hand in bass clef. The piano part features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the left hand and chords with triplet patterns in the right hand. A dynamic marking of 8^{vb} is present at the start of the piano part.

56

stress the consonants

with growing emotion

poco

and sa-vage sea - sons. _____ We are cry - ing out

8

8

8

8

Detailed description: This system contains measures 56, 57, and 58. The vocal line continues in treble clef. The piano accompaniment shows a change in texture, with a 'with pedal' instruction in the left hand and a 'poco' marking in the right hand. The piano part includes a triplet in the right hand and a more active left hand. A dynamic marking of 8 is shown at the beginning of the piano part.

59

A little faster ♩ = 125

for truth _____ and rea - son. _____

8

mf

8^{vb}

Detailed description: This system contains measures 59, 60, 61, and 62. The tempo is marked 'A little faster' with a quarter note equal to 125. The vocal line is in treble clef. The piano accompaniment is in 7/8 time and features a dynamic marking of *mf*. The piano part has a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the left hand and chords in the right hand. A dynamic marking of 8^{vb} is present at the end of the piano part.

63

Slowly and freely ♩ ≈ 68

See how the path is _____ ov - er - grown! _____

8

mp

8

Detailed description: This system contains measures 63, 64, and 65. The tempo is marked 'Slowly and freely' with a quarter note approximately equal to 68. The vocal line is in treble clef. The piano accompaniment is in 7/8 time and features a dynamic marking of *mp*. The piano part has a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the left hand and chords in the right hand. A dynamic marking of 8 is shown at the beginning of the piano part.

4

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68 *wistfully* ♩ = 92

In the green fields of the heart-land

72

towns are thin-ning out, dreams down-siz - ing. A chill wind blows through the

stronger

76 *Slower* ♩ = 64

emp - ty mall.

p

80 *quiet, but alarmed* *molto rit.* ♩ = 86 *fiercely* *rit.*

quiet, but alarmed *molto rit.* *fiercely* *rit.*

Some-where a young man cleans his gun. "They have sto-len my A-mer-i - ca," he

molto rit. *mf* *rit.*

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84 ♩ = 110

with anguish

cries. _____ Who will draw _____ the

Musical score for measures 84-87. The vocal line is in treble clef with a 6/8 time signature. The piano accompaniment is in 6/8 time. The lyrics are: "cries. _____ Who will draw _____ the".

88

Suddenly slower ♩ = 85 *rit.*

poi - son from his heart? _____ ...From _____ his

softer

rit.

Musical score for measures 88-91. The tempo is "Suddenly slower" at 85 bpm with a "rit." (ritardando) marking. The key signature changes to one sharp (F#). The time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "poi - son from his heart? _____ ...From _____ his". The piano part includes a "softer" marking.

92 ♩ = 50

♩ = 80

heart. _____ A girl _____ or God, we pray.

mf *p* *mp*

Musical score for measures 92-95. The tempo is 50 bpm. The time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "heart. _____ A girl _____ or God, we pray.". The piano part features dynamic markings of *mf*, *p*, and *mp*, along with triplets.

96

dreamlike, tenderly

Far New Eng - land, _____ au - tumn time.

Musical score for measures 96-100. The tempo is "dreamlike, tenderly". The time signature is 6/4. The lyrics are: "Far New Eng - land, _____ au - tumn time.". The piano part includes triplets.

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100

8 A child___ stares at red___ leaves and won-ders how a mir-a-cle is made.

Musical notation for measures 100-103, including vocal line and piano accompaniment.

104

8 *stronger* She will grow and she will know be-fore___ long___ the

Musical notation for measures 104-106, including vocal line and piano accompaniment.

107

8 path of grace, the chang-ing face of___ our age___

softly

Musical notation for measures 107-110, including vocal line and piano accompaniment.

111

8 --ev - er shift-ing,___ e - lu-sive,___ turned toward the fu-ture.___ Of

Musical notation for measures 111-114, including vocal line and piano accompaniment.

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116

with conviction

8 this she is sure: Yes-ter-day _____ is gone _____ and o - pen hearts must

Musical notation for measures 116-119, including vocal line and piano accompaniment.

120

almost soaring

8 point the way. _____ And with her go _____ the

Musical notation for measures 120-123, including vocal line and piano accompaniment.

124

8 hopes of all, _____

Musical notation for measures 124-125, including vocal line and piano accompaniment.

126 **Slowly** ♩ = 65

rit.

8 from sea to shin - ing sea.

Musical notation for measures 126-129, including vocal line and piano accompaniment.