

DT0057.4 | TRUMBORE
BARITONE & PIANO

FOR THE DAUGHTER I MAY NEVER HAVE

Baritone & Piano

The logo for Dale Trumbore, featuring a stylized musical note above the word "daletrumbore" in a lowercase, sans-serif font. Below the name, the word "composer" is written in a smaller, lowercase, sans-serif font, with each letter spaced out.

daletrumbore
c o m p o s e r

FOR THE DAUGHTER I MAY NEVER HAVE

What can I say to you,
you who may never exist,
you who would have my eyes,
enjoy what I detest,
you who would eat tomatoes like apples,
love soccer and tennis,
and pick the olives out of your salad?

Tell me how, as if this were simple:
where to go for dinner and what to order.
Never mind how anyone decides anything
three days from an earthquake
and barely one mile from the fire;
I can hardly pick one dish,
let alone upend my life
for a girl who hates olives.

But wanting both lifetimes is not the same
as not wanting you, my dear,
who may or may not exist in the future,
you who would wrinkle our sheets,
sleep in, take large bowls of cereal
up to your room and forget
to bring them back down.

Tell me it's selfish, choosing
airplanes and grand pianos
over you, my dear.
Tell me it's selfish, you who would
inherit his teeth, smash glass on the stairs,
spit out words you'd regret,
and call me by my first name.

Sure, I would love you through broken glass,
names, teeth, and regret. But I am as certain
that I may not get the chance,
may refuse to lend you my ribcage
or say your name out loud.

(text, continued)

Teach me how to swallow a fate
defined by the absence of you.
Teach me what I would become,
who you would be, if I were your
tell me who I am. Give me
a lifetime to decide. Give me the life
I've chosen for both of us,
then forgive me and give me another.

Dale Trumbore

PROGRAM NOTE

For the Daughter I May Never Have was commissioned by the Pennsylvania State University Glee Club, Dr. Christopher Kiver, Conductor. This commission was made possible in part by a Faculty Research Grant from the Penn State College of Arts and Architecture.

The 2023 art-song arrangement of this work is dedicated to mezzo-soprano Mairin Srygley.

PERFORMANCE NOTE

When two or more notes are marked in the vocal line, either choice is equally desirable. Stick with that higher or lower choice for the entire phrase.

The choral version of this piece was commissioned for the Pennsylvania State University Glee Club, Dr. Christopher Kiver, Conductor,
and made possible in part by a Faculty Research Grant from the Penn State College of Arts and Architecture.
The 2023 art-song arrangement of this work is dedicated to mezzo-soprano Mairin Srygley.

For the Daughter I May Never Have

Baritone & Piano

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Gently, with rubato throughout; ♩ = ca. 88

The musical score is written for Baritone and Piano. It consists of three systems of music. Each system includes a vocal line in bass clef and a piano accompaniment in treble and bass clefs. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'Gently, with rubato throughout; ♩ = ca. 88'. The dynamics range from mezzo-piano (mp) to mezzo-forte (mf) and piano (p). The lyrics are: 'What can I say_ to you, you_ who may nev - er ex - ist, you_ who would have my eyes, en - joy what I de - test, you who would eat to - ma - toes like ap - ples, love soc - cer and ten - nis, and'. The piano accompaniment features triplet patterns in the right hand and sustained chords in the left hand.

What can I say_ to you, you_ who may

nev - er ex - ist, you_ who would have my eyes, en - joy what I de - test,

you who would eat to - ma - toes like ap - ples, love soc - cer and ten - nis, and

For the Daughter I May Never Have

13 *mf* *mp*

pick the o-lives out of your sa - lad?_ Tell me how, as

17

if it were this sim - ple: where to go for din - ner and

21 *mf* *p* *mp*

what to ord - er, Nev - er - mind how a - ny - one de - cides an - y - thing three days_ from an

27 *mf* *p* *mf*

earth - quake and bare - ly one mile_ from the fire, I can hard - ly

31

pick one dish, let a - lone up-end my life for a girl who hates o-lives. But

35

want - ing both life-times is not the same as not want - ing you, my

40

dear, my dear, who may or may not ex - ist in the fu - ture,.

45

you who would wrin- kle our sheets, sleep in take large bowls of ce - re - al

For the Daughter I May Never Have

4

49 *mp* *sub. p*

up to your room and for - get_ to bring them back down. Tell me it's self - ish choos-ing

54 *f* *mf*

air - planes_ and grand pian - os_ o - ver you my dear, my_

58 *mp* *mf*

dear. Tell me it's self - ish, you_ who would in -

63 *p*

her - it his teeth, smash glass on the stairs, spit out words you'd re - gret, and

67 *mf*

call me__ by my first_ name. Sure, I__ would love you through

67 *mf* *p*

72 *p* *mf*

bro - ken glass,_____ through_ names,_____ teeth, and_ re -

72 *p* *mf*

76 *p* *mf*

gret, But I am__ as cer - tain__ that I may nev - er get__ the

76 *p* *mf* *p*

80 *f* *mp*

chance, may re - fuse_ to lend you my rib_ cage. or say your name out

80 *mf* *p*

For the Daughter I May Never Have

6

84 *f* **poco a poco rit.** *p*

loud. Teach me how to swal-low a fate de-fined by the ab-sence, the

84 **poco a poco rit.** *f* *pp*

89 **Slower; ♩ = ca. 72** *pp* *mp*

ab - sence of you. Teach me what I would be -

89 **Slower; ♩ = ca. 72** *pp* *p* *mp*

94 **rit.** **Slow and deliberate; ♩ = ca. 60** *mp* **poco accel.** *ff*

come if I were_ your— tell me_ who I am.

94 **rit.** **Slow and deliberate; ♩ = ca. 60** *p* *mp* **poco accel.**

Ped.

For the Daughter I May Never Have

100 ♩ = ca. 80

p

Give me a life - time__ to de - cide,

Detailed description: This block shows the vocal line for measures 100-104. The music is in a key with two flats and a 4/4 time signature. It begins with a rest for the first measure. The melody starts on a half note G, followed by quarter notes A, B, and C. A triplet of eighth notes (D, E, F) is marked with a '3' and a slur. The line ends with a half note G. The dynamic is marked *p*.

100 ♩ = ca. 80

pp

Detailed description: This block shows the piano accompaniment for measures 100-104. The right hand starts with a half note G, followed by quarter notes A, B, and C. A triplet of eighth notes (D, E, F) is marked with a '3' and a slur. The left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The dynamic is marked *pp*.

105

mf

f rit. Slower; ♩ = ca. 60

pp *mp*

Give me the life I've cho-sen for both of us._____ Then for - give me,

Detailed description: This block shows the vocal line for measures 105-109. The music is in a key with two flats and a 4/4 time signature. It begins with a rest for the first measure. The melody starts on a half note G, followed by quarter notes A, B, and C. A triplet of eighth notes (D, E, F) is marked with a '3' and a slur. The line ends with a half note G. The dynamic is marked *mf*. The tempo is marked *rit.* and *Slower; ♩ = ca. 60*. The dynamic changes to *pp* and then *mp*.

105

mf *f* rit. Slower; ♩ = ca. 60

p

Detailed description: This block shows the piano accompaniment for measures 105-109. The right hand starts with a half note G, followed by quarter notes A, B, and C. A triplet of eighth notes (D, E, F) is marked with a '3' and a slur. The left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The dynamic is marked *mf*. The tempo is marked *rit.* and *Slower; ♩ = ca. 60*. The dynamic changes to *f* and then *p*.

poco accel. ♩ = ca. 80

poco a poco rall.

110

mp

and give me an - oth - er._____

Detailed description: This block shows the vocal line for measures 110-114. The music is in a key with two flats and a 4/4 time signature. It begins with a rest for the first measure. The melody starts on a half note G, followed by quarter notes A, B, and C. The line ends with a half note G. The dynamic is marked *mp*.

110

poco accel. ♩ = ca. 80

poco a poco rall.

mp

Detailed description: This block shows the piano accompaniment for measures 110-114. The right hand starts with a half note G, followed by quarter notes A, B, and C. A triplet of eighth notes (D, E, F) is marked with a '3' and a slur. The left hand plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The dynamic is marked *mp*.