

DT0057 | TRUMBORE
TTBB & PIANO

FOR THE DAUGHTER I MAY NEVER HAVE

TTBB & 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.
Nevermind 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

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.

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TTBB Chorus & Piano

Dale Trumbore

Gently; ♩ = ca. 88

TENOR 1 *mf* What can I say_ to you, *mp* you_ who may

TENOR 2 *mf* What can I say_ to you, *p*

BASS 1 *p*

BASS 2 *p*

Piano *p*

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

you_ who would have my eyes, en - joy what I de - test, *mf*

oh *mf*

oh

For the Daughter I May Never Have

10 *p* *mf*
you, _____ love soc - cer, _____

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

p *mf* *p*
you, _____ love soc-cer and ten - nis, and pick the o-lives out of your

p *mf* *p*
you, _____ love soc - cer _____ and pick the o-lives out of your

10 *p* *mf* *p*
_____ *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

14 *p* *f*
ah _____ Tell me how, _____

8 *p* *f* *p*
ah _____ Tell me how, _____

f *p*
sa - lad?_ Tell me how, _____

f *mf*
sa - lad?_ Tell me how, _____ as if it were this sim - ple:

14 *f* *mp*
_____ *f* *mp*

For the Daughter I May Never Have

29 *pp* *mf*
ah I can hard - ly pick one dish, let a - lone up-end my life for a
fire, I can hard - ly pick one dish, let a - lone up-end my life for a
pp *mp*
ah ah
pp
ah

33 *f*
girl who hates o-lives. But want - ing both life-times is not the same as
girl who hates o-lives. But want - ing both life-times is not the same as
f
But want - ing both life- times_ is_ not the same as
But want - ing_ both life - times_ is_ not the same as

33 *p* *mf* *f*

38

not want - ing you, my dear, my dear, who

not want - ing you, my dear, my dear, who

not want - ing you, my dear, my dear, who

not want - ing you, my dear, my dear, who

38

p

43

you who would wrin - kle our sheets, sleep

you who would wrin - kle our sheets, sleep

may or may not ex - ist in the fu - ture, you sleep

may or may not ex - ist in the fu - ture, you sleep

43

mf

54 *mf* air - planes_ and grand pian - os_ o - ver you_ *f*

air - planes_ and grand pian - os_ o - ver you_ my dear, my_ *mf*

my dear, my_ *mf*

my dear, my_

54 *mf*

Red.

58 dear. you who would in -

dear. Tell me it's self - ish, you *mf*

dear. oo. you *pp* *mf*

dear. oo. you *pp* *mf*

58 *p* *f*

For the Daughter I May Never Have

63

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

mf *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

67

call me by my first name. ah
 call me by my first name. ah
 call me by my first name. Sure, I would love you through
 call me by my first name. Sure, I would love you through

mf *mf* *mf* *mf* *p*

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81

mp

fuse to lend you my rib cage. or say your name out loud.

mp

fuse to lend you my rib cage. or say your name out loud.

mp

fuse to lend you my rib cage. or say your name out loud.

mp

fuse to lend you my rib cage. or say your name out loud.

81

p

85

f *poco a poco rit.* *p*

Teach me how to swallow a fate defined by the absence, the

f *p*

Teach me how ah the

f *p*

Teach me how ah the

f *p*

Teach me how ah the

85

f *poco a poco rit.* *pp*

Slower; ♩ = ca. 72

89 *pp* *mp*
ab - sence_ of you. Teach me what
ab - sence_ of you. Teach me what
ab - sence_ of you. Teach me what
ab - sence_ of you. Teach me what

89 *pp* *mp*
ab - sence_ of you. Teach me what
ab - sence_ of you. Teach me what
ab - sence_ of you. Teach me what
ab - sence_ of you. Teach me what

rit. *Slow and deliberate;* ♩ = ca. 60

93 *f* *f* *f* *f*
I would_ be - come if I were_ your-
I would_ be - come if I were_ your-
I would_ be - come if I were_ your-
I would_ be - come if I were_ your-

93 *rit.* *Slow and deliberate;* ♩ = ca. 60
p

107 *f* *rit.* *Slower; ♩ = ca. 60* *pp* *mp* *mp* *poco accel.*

both of us. Then for - give me, and give me an -

both of us. Then for - give me,

both of us. Then for - give me,

both of us. Then for - give me, and give me an -

107 *f* *rit.* *Slower; ♩ = ca. 60* *poco accel.*

f

111 *♩ = ca. 80* *poco a poco rall.*

oth - er. oh

oh

oh

oth - er. oh

111 *♩ = ca. 80* *poco a poco rall.*

p