

JS 032

ca. 4 minutes, 30 seconds

teacher
lover
lamb

SATB, a cappella

Music and Text by
Joshua Shank

Note from the composer

Sometimes, when a burden—be it emotional, psychological, physical, or financial—becomes too much for us to bear, many of us seek out someone else to help shoulder it for a moment while we regain our breath. This work is a testament to that concept in that it's a list made up of roles that people outside ourselves fulfill when we ask for a little extra help.

teacher lover lamb was commissioned by The Choral Project (Daniel Hughes, conductor) and is dedicated to the composer David Lang, whose music it is indebted to. It is a movement of a larger work based on mass ordinaries—this work is the “Agnus Dei”—titled *there's something i have to say*.

Performances notes

- This probably goes without saying but, when the harmonies are closer, shore up the vibrato where possible to let stuff shimmer a bit.
- Where a 3-part divisi occurs in the SA, it's preferable to have an even split between the voices if possible.
- Staggered breathing should be employed throughout with no apparent break in the musical line unless specified.

The Text

Libretto from various sources; assembled by the composer

sometimes i need...

...a guide
...a mentor
...a healer
...a teacher
...a neighbor

sometimes i need...

...a therapist
...an investigator
...a contractor
...a coach
...an expert
...a role model

sometimes i need...

...a champion
...an advocate

...an enemy

...a lover

...a partner

...a friend

...my family

...a holy man

...a lamb of god

sometimes i need...

...you

Commissioned by The Choral Project
Daniel Hughes, Conductor

teacher lover lamb

(for David Lang)

Words and Music by
Joshua Shank

quarter = 40

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Joshua Shank

6

Treble 1
some - times some - times

Treble 2
p background *
some - times some times some - times

Treble 3
mp always in the foreground
some - times i

7

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some - times some - times some - times

— some - times some - times some -

need a guide some - times i need a men - tor

* Don't draw too much attention to the sibilants. This should be more like an arrhythmic ostinato in the background. Also, try to elide the 's' sounds between voice parts if possible

14

some - times some - times some - times
 times some - times some - times
 some - times i need a heal - er some - times i need a

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20

times some - times some - times
 some - times some - times
 teach - er some - times i need a neigh - bor

26

*p stagger breathing **
 some - times some - times
mp foreground
 some - times i need a ther-a - pist some - times i
*p stagger breathing **
 some - times some - times

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* Again, not too much on the sibilants. And elide the 's' (so it will end up sounding like "sometime").

31

- times _____ some - times some - times _____

need an in - ves - ti - ga - tor _____ some - times i need a

some - times some - times _____ some -

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36

_____ some - times _____ some - times some - times _____

con - tract - or _____ some - times i need a coach

times some - times some - times _____ some -

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42

_____ some - times _____ some - times _____ some -

some - times i need an ex - pert _____ some - times i

- times some - times _____ some - times _____

50 a tempo

47

S
- times some times some - times i need a cham - pi - on

A
need a role mo - del some - times i need a cham - pi - on

T
some - times some times i need

B
some - times

rit. *sub. f* (stagger breathe)

rit. *sub. f foreground*

rit. *sub. f* (stagger breathe)

rit. *sub. f* (stagger breathe)

53

— some - times i need some - times i need some - times i

— some - times i need an ad - vo - cate some - times i

some - times i need an ad - vo - cate i need

need an ad - vo - cate some -

59

need an en-e-my some - times i need some - times i
 need an en - e - my some-times i need a lo - ver
 some - times i need some times i need
 times i need a lo -

65

need some - times i need a part - ner some - times i
 some-times i need a part - ner some - times i
 some - times i need a part - ner i need
 ver some times i need a

71

need some - times i need some - times i need my fam-i - ly some -
 need a friend some - times i need my fam-i - ly
 some - times i need some - times i need
 friend some - times

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77

82

times some - times i need a ho - ly man some - times i
 some - times i need a ho - ly man some - times i
 some - times i need a ho - ly man some - times
 need a ho ly man some - times

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87 quarter = 35 (and slowing)

83

rit. **G.P.** *p* *lunga*

need a lamb of god some - times i need you

rit. **G.P.** *p* *lunga*

need a lamb of god some - times i need you

rit. **G.P.** *p* *lunga*

i need a lamb of god some - times i need you

rit. **G.P.** *p* *lunga*

i need a lamb of god some - times i need you

B&F Music
Joshua Shank

Cambridge, July 2022

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Joshua Shank