

DT0110.6 | THE STEADY RAIN (FROM A CALENDAR OF  
LIGHT) TRUMBORE | TTBB CHORUS

THE STEADY RAIN  
(FROM A CALENDAR OF  
*LIGHT*)

TTBB Chorus

Text by Barbara Crooker

daletrumbore  
c o m p o s e r

## THE STEADY RAIN

Amidst the horror, the steady rain  
of bad news, the worry over climate change, coastlines drowned  
as ice caps melt, oceans rise, the only thing  
I know how to do is tend my garden, turn over the dirt  
in even rows, drill in the seed, pat it down,  
let the spade sink into gravelly ground.

—Barbara Crooker

This piece excerpts Crooker’s poem “Planting.” The last line of this poem references Seamus Heaney’s poem “Digging.”

## PROGRAM NOTE

*The steady rain* notes “the steady rain of bad news,” including signs of climate change like rising oceans and melting ice caps. With this onslaught of pain, how are we to find solace? Crooker’s poem suggests starting small, whether that means sowing seeds in a literal garden or planting seeds of change for a metaphorical one.

This piece is excerpted from *A Calendar of Light*, a 75-minute work that takes the shape of a calendar and holds us accountable for our relationship with the earth, especially in the greater context of climate change. Ultimately, the piece calls for reflection and action.

*A Calendar of Light* was commissioned by The Esoterics and is dedicated, with gratitude, to its Artistic Director, Eric Banks. This work was composed in part at the Tusen Takk Foundation, with thanks to Geoffrey Peckham and Patricia Melzer for their generous support.

## PERFORMANCE NOTE

Whenever a glissando is marked between two notes, singers establish the note briefly, then slide to reach the next note.

# The steady rain

from *A CALENDAR OF LIGHT*

for TTBB chorus a cappella

Barbara Crooker

Dale Trumbore

$\text{♩} = \text{ca. 126 or slightly faster}$

T. 1  
A-midst the hor-ror, the stead-y rain of bad news, the stead-y rain

T. 2  
A-midst the hor-ror, the stead-y rain of bad news, stead-y

B. 1  
A-midst the hor-ror, the stead-y the stead-y rain

B. 2  
A-midst the hor-ror, the stead-y rain

Pno.

5  
T. 1  
stead-y rain stead-y rain A-midst the hor-ror, the stead-y

T. 2  
rain stead-y rain stead-y rain A-midst the hor-ror, the stead-y

B. 1  
stead-y rain stead-y rain A-midst the hor-ror,

B. 2  
stead-y rain A-midst the hor-ror,

Pno.

5

9 *mf*  
T. 1 rain of bad news the wor-ry o-ver  
*mf*  
T. 2 rain of bad news  
*mp* *mf*  
B. 1 the stead-y rain the stead-y rain the stead-y rain  
*mp* *mf*  
B. 2 the stead rain the stead-y rain the stead-y rain  
Pno. 9

14  
T. 1 cli-mate change, coast - lines drowned as ice caps melt, *p* *mf*  
T. 2 the wor-ry o-ver cli-mate change, coast - lines drowned as ice caps melt, *mf* *p* *mf*  
B. 1 the wor-ry o-ver cli-mate change, coast - lines drowned as ice caps melt, *mf* *p* *mf*  
B. 2 coast - lines drowned as ice caps melt, *p* *mf*  
Pno. 14

19

T. 1 *mp* *f* *mf*  
o-ceans rise, \_\_\_\_\_ the stead-y

T. 2 *p* *f* *mf*  
o-ceans rise, \_\_\_\_\_ A-midst the hor-ror, the stead-y

B. 1 *p* *f* *mf*  
o-ceans rise, \_\_\_\_\_ A-midst the hor-ror,

B. 2 *mf*  
A-midst the hor-ror, A-midst the hor-ror,

Pno.

23

T. 1  
rain of bad news, bad news bad news, bad news,

T. 2  
rain of bad news, bad news, bad news, bad news,

B. 1  
the stead-y bad news, bad news, bad news, bad news, the stead-y

B. 2  
the stead-y bad news, bad news, bad news, bad news,

Pno.

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Here's the next page:

38

T. 1 *mf* *p*  
A-midst the hor-ror, the on - ly thing I know how to

T. 2 *mf* *p*  
A-midst the hor-ror, the on - ly thing I know how to

B. 1 hor-ror, A-midst the hor-ror, A-midst the hor-ror oh

B. 2 oh oh

Pno.

43

T. 1 *mf* *p*  
do A-midst the hor-ror, oh

T. 2 *mf* *p*  
do oh

B. 1 *mf*  
A-midst the hor-ror, the on - ly thing I

B. 2 *mf*  
A-midst the hor-ror, the on - ly thing I

Pno.

48 **poco rit.**

T. 1  
oo ————— tend my gar - - - den,

T. 2  
oo ————— tend my gar - den,

B. 1  
know how to do — is tend my gar - den,

B. 2  
know how to do is tend my gar - den,

Pno.

Slightly slower; ♩ = ca. 100-112

53 **pp** **mf** **p**

T. 1  
turn o - ver the dirt in e - ven rows, drill in the seed, pat it

T. 2  
turn o - ver the dirt in e - ven rows, drill in the seed, pat it

B. 1  
turn o - ver the dirt in e - ven rows, drill in the seed, pat it

B. 2  
turn o - ver the dirt in e - ven rows, oh

Pno.

poco accel. . . . .

59

T. 1  
8 down, let the spade sink in - to grav - el - ly

T. 2  
8 down, let the spade sink in - to grav - el - ly

B. 1  
8 down, let the spade sink in - to grav - el - ly

B. 2  
8 down, let the spade sink in - to grav - el - ly

Pno.  
59

Tempo 1

66 *mf*

T. 1  
8 ground. ah

T. 2  
*mf*  
8 ground in-to-the ground in-to-the ground in-to the ground in-to the ground.

B. 1  
*mf*  
8 in-to the ground in-to the grav-el - ly ground in-to the ground in-to the ground.

B. 2  
*mf*  
8 ground ground.

Pno.  
66