

DT0110.19 | THIS BLUE MORNING (FROM A CALENDAR OF LIGHT) |
TRUMBORE | SATB CHORUS

THIS BLUE MORNING (FROM A CALENDAR OF LIGHT)

SATB Chorus & Mezzo-Soprano Solo
Text by Barbara Crooker

d'aletrumbore
c o m p o s e r

THIS BLUE MORNING

[It's Monday morning]
mid-November, the world turned golden,
preserved in amber. I should be doing more
to save the planet—plant a tree, raise
a turbine, put solar panels on the roof
to grab the sun and bring it inside. Instead,
I'm sitting here scribbling, sitting on a wrought
iron chair, the air cold from last night's frost,
the thin sunlight sinking into the ruined
Appalachians of my spine. I know it's all

about to fall apart; the signs are everywhere.
But on this blue morning, the air bristling
with crickets and birdsong, I do the only thing
I can: put one word in front of the other,
and see what happens when they rub up against
each other. It might become something
that will burst into flame.

—Barbara Crooker

This piece sets Crooker's poem "It's Monday
Morning."

PROGRAM NOTE

"I should be doing more to save the planet," sings the mezzo-soprano narrator of *This blue morning*. Instead of planting a tree or raising a turbine, they do the work they can: "Put one word in front of the other... It might become something that will burst into flame." 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 within 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 NOTES

In the solo line, notes in parenthesis indicate optional, but slightly less preferable, notes. Breath marks in parentheses are optional.

Boxed notation indicates the following: alternate between the two notes, speeding up and slowing down, approximately between the speed of 8th and 16th notes and occasionally pausing briefly on a note.

Commissioned by The Esoterics and dedicated, with gratitude, to Eric Banks

This blue morning

from *A CALENDAR OF LIGHT*

Barbara Crooker

SATB chorus a cappella & treble soloist

Dale Trumbore

♩ = ca. 88
mp

Solo
It's Mon - day morn - ing, mid - No - vem - ber the

S.
p
It's Mon - day morn - ing, mm the

A.
p
It's Mon - day morn - ing, oh

T.
p
oh oh

B.
p
oh

Pno.

6
Solo
world turned gold - en, pre - served in am - ber.

S.
mp
world turned gold - en, nn *p*
nn

A.
mp
oh *p*
nn

T.
mp
oh *p*
oh

B.
mp
oh *p*
oh

Pno.

12 *mf* *mp*

Solo I should be do-ing more to save the plan - et— plant a tree, raise a tur-bine, put

S. save the plan - et— nn nn

A. *mf* *p*
I should be do-ing more to save the plan - et— nn nn

T. *mf* *p*
ah oh nn

B. *mf*
ah oh

Pno. 12

18 *f* *mf* *mf* *p* *mf*

Solo so - lar pan - els on the roof to grab the sun and bring it in -

S. so - lar pan - els on the roof ah

A. so - lar pan - els oo ah

T. *p* *mf*
oh oo ah

B. ah

Pno. 18

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33 *rit.* *p* **Slow**

Solo
the thin sun - light sink - ing in - to the ru - ined_ Ap - pa - la - chians of my spine.

S. *pp*
oh oh

A. *pp*
oh oh

T. *pp*
oh

B. *pp*
oh

Pno.

38 **poco accel.** *mf* **In time**

Solo
I know it's all a - bout to fall a - part; I

S. *p*
a - part; I

A. *mp*
I know it's all a - bout to fall a - part; I

T. *mp* *mf*
oh ah

B. *mp* *mf*
oh ah

Pno.

43

Solo
know _____ the signs are

S.
know it's all a - bout to fall a - part; _____ the signs are

A.
know it's all a - bout to fall _____ ah

T.
oh _____ ah

B.
oh _____ ah

Pno.

47 *poco rit.* Slightly slower; ♩ = ca. 72

Solo *mf*
eve - ry - where. _____ But on this blue _____ morn - ing, the

S. *mp* _____ *p* _____ *mf*
eve - ry - where. _____ But on this blue _____ morn - ing,

A. *mp* _____ *mf* _____ *mp*
oh _____ oo _____ oh

T. *p* _____ *mf* _____ *p* _____ *mf*
oh _____ But on this blue _____ morn - ing,

B. *p* _____ *p* _____ *mf*
oh _____ But on this blue _____ morn - ing,

Pno.

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61 *f* *mp*

Solo *f* *mp*

S. *f* *mp*

A. *f* *mp*

T. *f* *mp*

B. *f* *mp*

Pno.

hap - pens when they rub up a - gainst each oth - er. It

hap - pens when they rub up oh It

ah oh It

ah oh It

65 *f*

Solo *f*

S. *f*

A. *f*

T. *f*

B. *f*

Pno.

might be - come some - thing that will burst in - to flame. *f*

might be - come some - thing that will burst in - to flame.* *f*

might be - come some - thing that will burst in - to flame.* *f*

might be - come some - thing that will burst in - to flame.* *f*

might be - come some - thing that will burst in - to flame. *f*

*Alternating between the two notes, speeding up and slowing down, between the speed of 8th and 16th notes.