

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 in 4/4 time, with a tempo of approximately 88 beats per minute. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The score is divided into three systems. The first system (measures 1-5) features a baritone line starting with a rest, followed by the lyrics 'What can I say\_ to you, you\_ who may'. The piano accompaniment consists of a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a bass line with triplets in the left hand. The second system (measures 6-9) continues the baritone line with lyrics 'nev - er ex - ist, you\_ who would have my eyes, en - joy what I de - test,'. The piano accompaniment continues with similar patterns, including triplets and a change in dynamics to *mf*. The third system (measures 10-13) concludes the baritone line with lyrics 'you who would eat to - ma - toes like ap - ples, love soc - cer and ten - nis, and'. The piano accompaniment features a *p* dynamic in the right hand and *mf* in the left hand, with a final cadence.

**Gently, with rubato throughout; ♩ = ca. 88**

*mp*

What can I say\_ to you, you\_ who may

**Gently, with rubato throughout; ♩ = ca. 88**

*mp*

6

*mf*

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

6

*mf*

10

*p*

*mf*

*p*

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

10

*p*

*mf*

*p*

*mf*

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13 *mf* *mp*

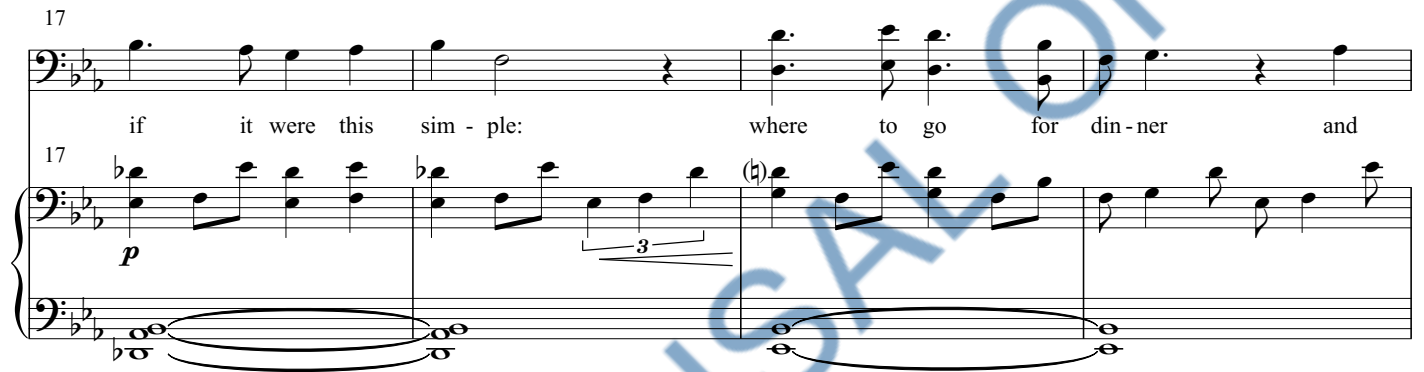
pick the o-lives out of your sa-lad?\_ Tell me how, as



17

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

17 *p* *mf*

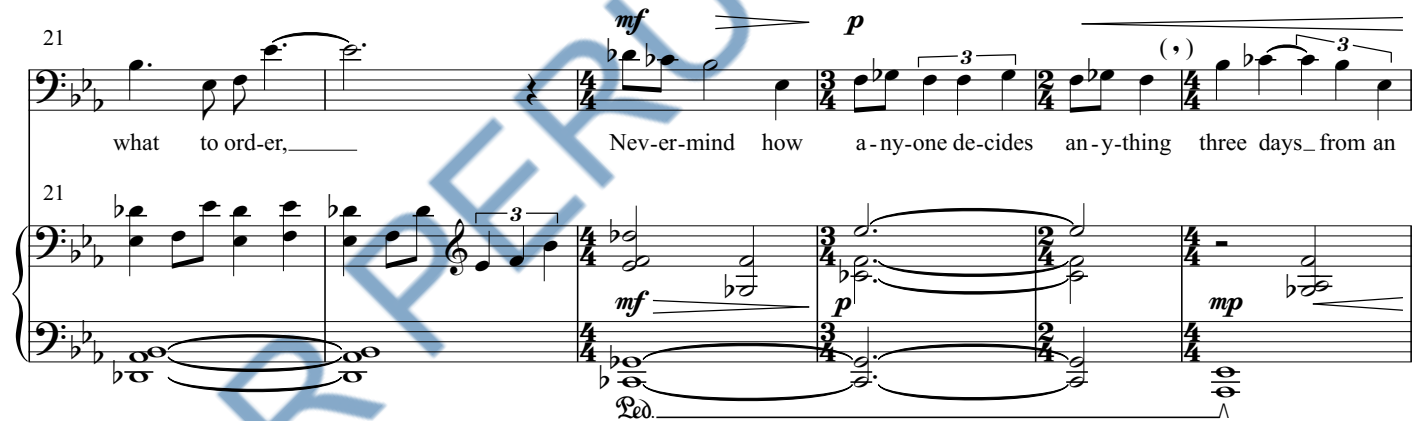


21 *mf* *p*

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

21 *mf* *p* *mp*

Ped.



27 *mf* *p* *mf*

earth-quake and bare-ly one mile\_ from the fire, I can hard-ly

27 *mf* *p* *pp* *mf*



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

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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*

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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.*

