

Sonnet for a Major Birthday

Rev. 2/8/13

Adagio ♩ = 76

Mournfully

Soprano

Tenor

Piano

p

p

It was a birth-day I had

It was a birth-day I had

6

mf

f

dread-ed_ for months, the creak-ing door to An-cient and His-tor-ic,— and I thought how I

mf

f

dread-ed_ for months, the creak-ing door to An-cient and His-tor ic,— and I thought how I

10

p

was so live-ly once and nev-er would be_ a - gain

p

was so live-ly once and nev-er would be_ a - gain (a - las, poor Yor- ick),—

14

mf

and then the day it-self,

mf

so ver-y or-di-nar-y—

19

qui-et, part-ly cloud-y,— warm. One more Au-gust day on our ex-ten-sive prai-rie,—

Swift. One more Au-gust day on our ex-ten-sive prai-rie,—

23

rit.

and or-di-nar-i-ness was my birth-day gift.

rit.

p

Adagio ♩ = 66

27 *p* Noth-ing hap-pened. Cof-fee, fried eggs, and ba-con, *mp* a hot show-er, the

8 *p* Noth-ing hap-pened. Cof-fee, fried eggs, and ba-con, *mp* a hot show-er, the

30 *mf* or-di-nar-y stuff of hap-pi-ness, to which I hope eve-ry morn-ing to a-wak-en *f* un-til one

8 *mf* or-di-nar-y stuff of hap-pi-ness, to which I hope eve-ry morn-ing to a-wak-en *f* un-til one

Furiously ♩ = 116

34 day I don't, which is not for me to guess. Thir-ty,—

8 day I don't, which is not for me to guess. Thir-ty,—

38

for - ty, — fif - ty, — and then (O my God) six - ty

for - ty, — fif - ty, — and then six - ty

42

five, but it's o - kay you wake up, you

five, but it's o - kay you wake up, you

pp *mp* *mf*

47

yawn, you're still a - live.

yawn, you're still a - live.

f *f*