

Walt Whitman (1819-1892)

Tears

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for Four Female Singers and Optional Electronics*

In strict time ♩ = 60

Intro: *tacet* 14" *mf* < > , < > < > < > **A** (*ticking clock at downbeat, but not in sync with vocals*) *p*

1 Tears! tears! tears Tears! tears! tears! in sol - i - tude,

2 Tears! tears! tears! Tears! tears! tears! In the night, In the night,

3 Tears! tears! tears! tears! tears! tears! _____ ↑ ("*bass drum*" hit)

4 Tears! tears! tears! Tears! tears! tears! _____

mf < > , < > < > < > *n*

Keyboard
(for rehearsal only)

4 *poco a poco cresc.*

— in sol - i - tude, in sol - i - tude, in sol - i - tude, in sol - i - tude, —

poco a poco cresc.

In the night, — In the night, — In the night, — In the night, In the night, In the night,

p *poco a poco cresc.*

Tears! tears! tears! — Tears! tears! tears! Tears! Tears!

p *poco a poco cresc.*

Tears! tears! tears! — Tears! tears! tears! Tears!

(last "tick")

(enter "ocean" sounds with bass drum hit)

B **Con anima**

in sol - i - tude, In Tears! tears! tears! , On the white shore drip - ping,

— In the night, In Tears! tears! tears! On the white shore —

tears! tears! tears! tears! tears! On the white shore

tears! tears! Tears! tears! tears! **Con anima** On the white

12

drip - ping, suck'd in by the sand; Tears not a star shine - ing

shore suck'd in by the sand; Tears not a star shine —

drip - ping, drip - ping, — sand; Tears not a star —

shore drip - ping, — sand; Tears not a star

17 [C] (*colla parte with track to rehearsal E*)

shin - ing all dark and des - o - late; Moist tears from the
 shin - ing all dark and des - o - late; Moist tears from the
 shin - ing all dark and des - o - late;
 shin - ing all des - o - late;

22

eyes of a muf - fled head: O who is that ghost? that form
 eyes of a muf - fled head: O who is that ghost? that form
 O who is that ghost? that form
 eyes of a muf - fled head: O who is that ghost? that form

D

26 *mp* , *p* *mf*

in the dark, with tears? What shape-less lump is that, bent, crouch'd there

mp , *p* *mf*

in the dark, with tears? What shape lump is that, bent, crouch'd there

mp ,

in the dark, with tears?

mp , *p* *mf*

in the dark, with tears? What shape lump is that, bent, crouch'd there

E ("bass drum" hit)

30 *f* *mf* , *p* *sotto voce*

on the sand? Stream-ing tears Stream-ing sob-bing tears Stream-ing

f *mf* *p* *sotto voce*

on the sand? Stream-ing tears sob-bing tears

f *mf*

on the sand?

34

tears Stream-ing sob-bing tears Stream-ing tears sob-bing Stream-ing wild cries;

Stream-ing tears sob-bing tears Stream-ing tears wild cries;

mp

throes, choked with wild cries;

throes, choked with wild cries;

(enter "harpichord" sounding C5)

F Lontano; deliberamente ♩=55

38

Tears! tears! tears! O storm, em-bod-ied, ris-ing, ca-reer-ing,

Tears! tears! tears! O storm, em-bod-ied, ris-ing, ca-reer-ing,

Tears! tears! tears! O storm, em-bod-ied, ris-ing, ca-reer-ing,

Tears! tears! tears! O storm, em-bod-ied, ris-ing, ca-reer-ing,

Lontano; deliberamente ♩=55

("wind" sounds cresc.)

G

43

with swift steps a - long the beach; O wild night storm, with
poco dim. *pp* *mp*

with swift steps a - long the beach; O wild night storm, with
poco dim. *pp* *mp*

with swift steps a - long the beach; O wild and dis-mal night storm, with
poco dim. *pp* *mp*

with swift steps a - long the beach; O wild and dis-mal night storm, with
poco dim. *pp* *mp*

48

wind! O belch-ing and des-per- ate! O shade, so se - date and dec - o - rous by
f

wind! O belch-ing and des-per- ate! O shade, so se - date and dec - o - rous by
f

wind! O belch-ing and des-per- ate! O shade, so se - date and dec - o - rous by
f

wind! O belch-ing and des-per- ate! O shade, so se - date and dec - o - rous by
f

("harpsichord" returns)

(ticking clock on down beat--
again not staying in sync with vocals)

53 *mf* *mp* **H** Tempo ♩=60 *p* *n*

day, with calm coun-te-nance and reg-u-lat-ed pace; _____

mf *mp* *p* *n*

day, with calm coun-te-nance and reg-u-lat-ed pace; _____

mf *mp* *p* *pp*

day, with calm coun-te-nance and reg-u-lat-ed pace; In the night, In the night,

mf *mp* *p* *n* *pp*

day, with calm coun-te-nance and reg-u-lat-ed pace; _____ In the night,

Tempo ♩=60

(B.D. hit)

57 *p* *mp* *n* *mp*

at night, as you fly, _____ O then the

p *n* *p* *mp*

But a-way, _____ none look-ing O _____

p *pp* *p*

In the night, In the night, _____

p *pp* *p*

In the night, In the night, _____

(ticking stops!) **I** In strict time

60 *mf* *mp* (bass drum hit) *poco a poco dim.*

un-loos-en'd o-cean, Of Tears! in sol-i-tude, in sol-i-tude, in sol-i-tude,

n *mp* *poco a poco dim.*

In the night, In the night, In the night, In the night,

n *mp* *poco a poco dim.*

Tears! tears! tears! Tears! tears!

n *mp* *poco a poco dim.*

Tears! tears! tears! Tears! tears!

In strict time

(Postlude: tacet 20") →

64 *n*

in sol-i-tude, in sol-i-tude, In tears!

n

In the night, In the night, In the night, In tears!

n

tears! Tears! tears! tears! tears!

n

tears! Tears! tears! tears! tears!