

# Because I Could Not Stop for Death

From Dickinson Songs, op. 1, for high voice and string trio

Emily Dickinson (1830 - 1886)

Sivert Ellingsen (1992 -)

**Pesante** ♩ = 80 *mf non vibrato*

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Im-mor-ta - li - ty.

(8)

*p*

*p* arco

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*p*

We

20

slow-ly drove, he knew no haste, And I had put a - way My la-bour, and my

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25

lei - sure too, For his ci - vi - li - ty. We

*mp*

This system contains measures 25, 26, and 27. The vocal line is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are "lei - sure too, For his ci - vi - li - ty. We". The piano accompaniment consists of two staves: the upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef, both with a key signature of one sharp. The piano part features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the right hand and a dotted half-note accompaniment in the left hand.

28

passed the school where child - ren played, Their less - ons scarce - ly done; We

*mp*

*mp pizz.*

This system contains measures 28 and 29. The vocal line continues with the lyrics "passed the school where child - ren played, Their less - ons scarce - ly done; We". The piano accompaniment features a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand of both staves, marked with a "3" and a "mp" dynamic. The left hand of the lower staff has a "pizz." (pizzicato) marking.

30

passed the fields of ga - zing grain, We passed the se - tting sun. We

This system contains measures 30 and 31. The vocal line continues with the lyrics "passed the fields of ga - zing grain, We passed the se - tting sun. We". The piano accompaniment continues with the triplet of eighth notes in the right hand of both staves.

32

paused be - fore a house that seemed A swel - ling of the ground; The

34

roof was bare-ly vi - si - ble, The cor-nice but a mound. Since

*mf*  
*ff*  
*ff arco*  
*p*

38 rit.

then 'tis cen-tu - ries; but each Feels shor-ter than the day I first sur-mised the hor-ses' heads

*mf*  
*mf pizz.*

41 *pp* *allargando*

Were toward e - ter - ni - ty.

*pp*

*pp*

45 *pp* *arco*

8va

*morendo*

*ppp*

*morendo*

*ppp*

*pppp*

*morendo*