

THREE LULLABIES FOR TRAKL



ERIC SHANFIELD

THREE LULLABIES FOR TRAKL

Eric Shanfield

ENS.2012.7 | 5'

Soprano

Mezzo-soprano

Alto

This work may be performed by three solo voices, multiples thereof, or a small female choir.

Tempi are flexible, phrasing rubato. The rhythmic feel should be elastic but clearly syncopated.

Quarter rests at the ends of phrases may be performed longer or shorter to emphasize phrasing; interpretations should vary slightly.

THREE LULLABIES FOR TRAKL

John Yau

1.

The mountain named after the one
who stumbled into its shadow

The shadow made of slag and smoke
The mountain made of houses

where servants hang themselves
from the clouds

bunched beneath the rafters
The clouds made of houses

where children are sent to sleep
Are you at it again

The mountain dwindles when
another house

takes its place
No, that's not the name for it

Has the head floated off
dumping the body behind the bushes

Why do you call it a "house"
when no one lives there

One of us is walking out of the fire
One of us is pretending to sleep inside the smoke

House of smoke
House of fire

Are you at it again

2.

The moon stares into a mirror
A woman sees an empty dish

One animal licks another
Which of them is dead

I wrapped your scream in a star
I pinned two butterflies to its shadow

Why do we go on singing this song
when we know

all its words are nails
all our tongues pieces of wood

meant to build a house
for liars

The hills sink
beneath the rain

filling the cups
left out on the porch.

The hills we wanted to bury
behind the hills

so that we might weave
a hat or a hut

large enough for our friends
They were never our friends or yours

We do not know them any more
than we know these hills

One animal licks another
Why do we go on singing this song

3.
September hoists its flame against
brown and silver solid night

Did you ask yourself when
September bends its autumn fan

Houses extinguished
their dust let loose in the yard

September brushes rain from the pillow
Did you ask yourself when

the hair floated to the surface
Did you try and lift up its intolerant flame

THREE LULLABIES FOR TRAKL

1.

John Yau

Eric Shanfield

mf $\text{♩} = 96$

Soprano
The moun - tain named af - ter the one who stum - bled in - to its sha - dow

Mezzo-soprano
The moun - tain named af - ter the one who stum - bled in - to its sha - dow

Alto
The moun - tain named af - ter the one who stum - bled in - to its sha - dow

6 *mp* *mf* 11

S.
The sha - dow made of slag and smoke The moun - tain made of hou - ses where ser - vants

M-S.
The sha - dow made of slag and smoke The moun - tain made of hou - ses where ser - vants

A.
The sha - dow made of slag and smoke The moun - tain made of hou - ses where ser - vants

12 15 *mp* *f*

S.
hang them - selves from the clouds bunched be - neath the raft - ers The clouds made of

M-S.
hang them - selves from the clouds bunched be - neath the raft - ers The clouds made of

A.
hang them - selves from the clouds bunched be - neath the raft - ers The clouds made of

THREE LULLABIES FOR TRAKL - 1

20 25

19

S. hou - ses where chil - dren are sent to sleep Are you at it a gain The moun - tain

M-S. hou - ses where chil - dren are sent to sleep Are you at it a gain The moun - tain

A. hou - ses where chil - dren are sent to sleep Are you at it a - gain The moun - tain

26 28

S. dwin - dles when a no - ther house takes its place No, that's not the name for it

M-S. dwin - dles when a no - ther house takes its place No, that's not the name for it

A. dwin - dles when a - no - ther house takes its place No, that's not the name for it

32 36

S. Has the head float - ed off dump - ing the bo - dy be - hind the bush - es Why do you

M-S. Has the head float - ed off dump - ing the bo - dy be - hind the bush - es Why do you

A. Has the head float - ed off dump - ing the bo - dy be - hind the bush - es Why do you

41

37

S. *f* *pp*
 call it a "house" when no one lives there One of us is walk-ing out of the fire

M-S. *f* *pp*
 call it a "house" when no one lives there One of us is walk-ing out of the fire

A. *f* *pp*
 call it a "house" when no one lives there One of us is walk-ing out of the fire

48

44

S. *f*
 One of us is pre-tend-ing to sleep in-side_ the smoke House of smoke House of

M-S. *f*
 One of us is pre-tend-ing to sleep in-side_ the smoke House of smoke House of

A. *f*
 One of us is pre-tend-ing to sleep in-side_ the smoke House of smoke House of

56

51

S. *p* *pp*
 fi-re House of smoke House of fi-re Are you at it a-gain

M-S. *p* *pp*
 fi-re House of smoke House of fi-re Are you at it a-gain

A. *p* *pp*
 fi-re House of smoke House of fi-re Are you at it a-gain

THREE LULLABIES FOR TRAKL

2.

John Yau

Eric Shanfield

♩=96

Soprano *f* *p*
The moon stares in to a mir - ror_ A wo-man sees an emp - ty dish

Mezzo-soprano *f* *p*
The moon stares in to a mir - ror_ A wo-man sees an emp - ty dish

Alto *f* *p*
The moon stares in - to a mir - ror_ A wo-man sees an emp - ty dish

8 *f* *p* *mf* 14

S. One a - ni - mal licks a - no - ther Which of them is dead I wrapped your

M-S. One a - ni - mal licks a - no - ther Which of them is dead I wrapped your

A. One a - ni - mal licks a - no - ther Which of them is dead I wrapped your

15 *mp* 21

S. scream in a star I pinned two but - ter - flies to its sha - dow Why do we go on

M-S. scream in a star I pinned two but - ter - flies to its sha - dow Why do we go on

A. scream in a star I pinned two but - ter - flies to its sha - dow Why do we go on

23 25 *mf*

S. sing-ing this song when we know all its words are nails all our tongues pie - ces of

M-S. sing-ing this song when we know all its words are nails all our tongues pie - ces of

A. sing-ing this song when we know all our tongues

29 33 *ff* *f*

S. wood meant to build a house for li - ars The hills sink be - neath the rain

M-S. wood meant to build a house for li - ars The hills sink be - neath the rain

A. wood meant to build a house for li - ars The hills sink be - neath the rain

37 41 *p* *f*

S. fill-ing the cups left out on the porch The hills we want - ed to bu - ry be - hind the hills

M-S. fill-ing the cups left out on the porch The hills we want - ed to bu - ry be - hind the hills

A. fill-ing the cups left out on the porch The hills we want - ed to bu - ry be - hind the hills

45 48

p *mf* *f* *mp*

S. so that we might weave a hat or a hut large e - nough for our friends They were ne - ver

M-S. so that we might weave a hat or a hut large e - nough for our friends They were ne - ver

A. so that we might weave a hat or a hut large friends They were ne - ver

52 54

mf *p*

S. our friends or yours We do not know them a - ny more than we know these

M-S. our friends or yours We do not know them a - ny more than we know these

A. our friends or yours We do not know them a - ny more than we know these

61 62

f *p*

S. hills One a - ni - mal licks a no - ther Why do we go on sing - ing this song

M-S. hills One a - ni - mal licks a no - ther Why do we go on sing - ing this song

A. hills One a - ni - mal licks a - no - ther Why do we go on sing - ing this song

THREE LULLABIES FOR TRAKL

3.

John Yau

Eric Shanfield

$\text{♩} = 96$
sempre mp

Soprano
Sep - tem - ber hoists its flame a - gainst brown and sil - ver so - lid night

Mezzo-soprano
Sep - tem - ber hoists its flame a - gainst brown and sil - ver so - lid night

Alto
Sep - tem - ber hoists its flame a - gainst brown and sil - ver so - lid night

8

S.
Did you ask your - self when Sep - tem - ber bends its au - tumn fan

M-S.
Did you ask your - self when Sep - tem - ber bends its au - tumn fan

A.
Did you ask your - self when Sep - tem - ber bends its au - tumn fan

15 20

S.
Hou - ses ex - tin - guished their dust let loose in the yard Sep - tem - ber brush - es

M-S.
Hou - ses ex - tin - guished their dust let loose in the yard Sep - tem - ber brush - es

A.
Hou - ses ex - tin - guished their dust let loose in the yard Sep - tem - ber brush - es

22

S. rain from the pil - low Did you ask your-self when the hair float - ed

M-S. rain from the pil - low Did you ask your-self when the hair float - ed

A. rain from the pil - low Did you ask your-self when the hair float - ed

29

S. to the sur - face Did you try and lift up its in - to - ler - ant flame

M-S. to the sur - face Did you try and lift up its in - to - ler - ant flame

A. to the sur - face Did you try and lift up its in - to - ler - ant flame