

The Last Evening

SSSSAAATTBB

laura hawley

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The Last Evening

Text:

You're sitting at a small bay window
in an empty café by the sea.
It's nightfall, and the owner is locking up,
though you're still hunched over the radiator,
which is slowly losing warmth.

Now you're walking down to the shore
to watch the last blues fading on the waves.
You've lived in small houses, tight spaces—
the walls around you kept closing in—
but the sea and the sky were also yours.

No one else is around to drink with you
from the watery fog, shadowy depths.
You're alone with the whirling cosmos.
Goodbye, love, far away, in a warm place.
Night is endless here, silence infinite.

Text by Edward Hirsch used by permission, *What
the Last Evening Will Be Like*, from *The Living Fire:
New and Selected Poems, 1975-2010* (Alfred A. Knopf,
2010)

Psalm 107:23-27, 29-30

23 Qui descendunt mare in navibus facientes
operationem in aquis multis

24 Ipsi viderunt opera Domini et mirabilia eius in
profundo

25 Dixit et stetit spiritus procellae et exaltati sunt
fluctus eius

26 Ascendunt usque ad caelos et descendunt usque
ad abyssos anima eorum in malis tabescebat

28 Et clamaverunt ad Dominum cum tribularentur
et de necessitatibus eorum eduxit eos

29 Et statuit procellam eius in auram et siluerunt
fluctus eius

30 Et laetati sunt quia siluerunt et deduxit eos in
portum voluntatis eorum

23 They that go down to the sea in ships, doing
business in the great waters:

24 These have seen the works of the Lord, and his
wonders in the deep.

25 He said the word, and there arose a storm of
wind: and the waves thereof were lifted up.

26 They mount up to the heavens, and they go
down to the depths: their soul pined away with evils.

28 And they cried to the Lord in their affliction: and
he brought them out of their distresses.

29 And he turned the storm into a breeze: and its
waves were still.

30 And they rejoiced because they were still: and he
brought them to the haven which they wished for.

Commissioned and premiered by Halifax Camerata Singers (Jeff Joudrey, Artistic Director) for their
35th Anniversary Season

Duration: 7:00

Edward Hirsch
Psalm 107:23-26, 28-30

The Last Evening

laura hawley

$\text{♩} = 120$
mf *legato*

Soprano
Sit-ting at a small bay win-dow in an emp-ty ca-fé by the

Alto
Sit-ting at a small bay win-dow in an emp-ty ca-fé by the

Tenor
Sit-ting at a small bay win-dow in an emp-ty ca-fé by the

Bass

7

S
sea. It's night-fall, and the ow-ner's lock-ing up

A
sea. It's night-fall, and the ow-ner's lock-ing up

T 1
sea. It's night-fall, and the ow-ner's lock-ing up

T 2
sea. Good -

B 1
Good -

B 2

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12

S
though you're still hunched o - ver the ra - di - a - tor

A

T 1
good -

T 2
bye, good - bye, good - bye, good -

B 1
bye, good - bye, good - bye, good -

B 2
p
Good - bye, good - bye

A

17

S 1
slow - ly los - ing warmth, slow - ly ma - re, ma -

S 2
slow - ly los - ing warmth, slow - ly

A 1
p
ma -

A 2
mp
ma - re, ma - re,

T 1
bye, good - bye

T 2
bye, good - bye Qui des -

B 1
bye good - bye Qui des -

B 2
good - bye

23

S 1 re, ma - re, ma - re, ma - re, ma - re, ma -

S 2 ma - re, ma - re, ma - re

A 1 re ma - re, ma - re, ma - re, ma - re,

A 2 ma - re, ma - re, ma - re, ma - re, ma - re,

T 1 ma - re in

T 2 cen - dunt ma - re

B 1 cen - dunt ma - re in

28

Soli *mp* murmuring *dim. poco a poco*
ma-re in na-vi-bus a-qua mul-tis ma-re in na-vi-bus a-qua mul-tis ma-re in na-vi-bus a-qua mul-tis

S 1 *dim. poco a poco*
re, ma - re, ma - re,

S 2 *dim. poco a poco*

A 1 *dim. poco a poco*
ma - re, ma - re, ma - re,

A 2 *dim. poco a poco*
ma - re, ma - re, ma - re,

T 1 na - vi - bus

T 2

B na - vi - bus

B

31

Soli

ma-re in na-vi-bus a-qua mul-tis ma-re in na-vi-bus a-qua mul-tis ma-re in na-vi-bus

S 1

ma - - - re

A 1

ma - - - re

A 2

ma - - - re

T

mf

Qui des - cen - dunt ma - re in

B

mf

Qui des - cen - dunt ma - re in

pp

34

Solo 1

Solo 2

Solo 3

murmuring
p legato

a-qua mul-tis a-qua mul-tis a-qua

T

na - vi - bus fa - ci - en - tes op - er - a - ti - o - - nem in

B

na - vi - bus fa - ci - en - tes op - er - a - ti - o - - nem in

The Last Evening

39

p *murmuring* *legato*

Solo 1

Solo 2

Solo 3

T

B

a - qua mul - tis a - qua mul - tis a - qua mul - tis a - qua mul - tis

mul - tis a - qua mul - tis a - qua mul - tis

a - qua mul - tis a - qua mul - tis a - qua mul - tis a - qua

a - qua mul - tis

a - qua mul - tis a - qua mul - tis a - qua

a - qua mul - tis

a - qua mul - tis

42

p

Solo 1

Solo 2

Solo 3

T

B

a - qua mul - tis a - qua mul - tis a - qua mul - tis a - qua mul - tis a - qua mul - tis

a - qua mul - tis a - qua mul - tis a - qua

mul - tis a - qua mul - tis a - qua mul - tis

Ip - si vi - de - runt o - per -

Ip - si vi - de - runt o - per -

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intentionally.

53

S 1 *p* blue _____

A to the shore to watch the last blues fa - ding on the waves. —

T si vi - de - runt, ip - si vi - de - runt, vi -

B 1 si vi - de - runt, ip - si vi - de - runt, vi -

B 2 *mp* vi - de - runt, ip - si vi - de - runt, vi -

Sopranos div. a 3

58

S 1 _____

S 2 *mp* oo _____ *mf* the

S 3 _____ *mf* the

A _____ You've lived in small hous - es, tight spac - es where the

T de - runt op - er - a Do - mi - ni et

B 1 de - runt op - er - a Do - mi - ni et

B 2 de - runt op - er - a Do - mi - ni et

62 *accel.* *mf cresc.*

S 1 but the

S 2 *cresc.* walls a - round you kept clo - sing in but the

S 3 *cresc.* walls a - round you kept clo - sing in but the

A *cresc.* walls a - round you kept clo - sing in but the

T *cresc.* mi - - - ra - bi - li - a ei - us

B 1 *cresc.* mi - - - ra - bi - li - a ei - us

B 2 *cresc.* mi - - - ra - bi - li - a ei - us

65 *f* *Altos div. a 3*

S 1 sea and the sky were al - so yours.

S 2 sea and the sky were al - so yours.

S 3 sea and the sky were al - so yours.

A sea and the sky were al - so yours. No - one

T 1 *sfp* ah

T 2 *sfp* ah

B 1 *sfp* ah

B 2 *sfp* ah

Piu Mosso $\text{♩} = 144$

D

Sopranos div. a 4

69 *f*

S 1
else is a - round to drink with

S 2
ma-re in na-vi-bus ma-re in na-vi-bus ma-re in na-vi-bus *simile*

S 3
f
Dix - it et stet - it et ex - al -

S 4
f
spi - ri - tus pro - cel - lae

A 1
else is a - round to drink with

A 2
else is a - round to drink with

A 3
f
else ma-re in na-vi-bus ma-re in na-vi bus

T 1
Dix - it et stet - it spi - ri - tus pro - cel-lae et ex - al -

T 2
f
Dix - it et stet - it spi - ri - tus pro - cel-lae et ex - al -

B 1
f
Dix - it et stet - it spi - ri - tus pro - cel-lae et ex - al -

B 2
f
Dix - it et stet - it spi - ri - tus pro - cel-lae et ex - al -

74

S 1
you from the wat - er - y fog from the shad - ow-y

S 2
ma-re in na-vi-bus ma-re in na-vi-bus ma-re in na-vi-bus

S 3
ta - ti - sunt As - cen - dunt us - que ad

S 4
fluc - tus ei - us

A 1
you from the wat - er - y fog from the shad - ow-y

A 2
you from the wat - er - y fog from the shad - ow-y

A 3
simile
ma-re in na-vi-bus ma-re in na-vi-bus

T 1
ta - ti sunt fluc - tus ei - us² As - cen - dunt us - que² ad

T 2
ta - ti sunt fluc - tus ei - us² As - cen - dunt us - que² ad

B 1
ta - ti sunt fluc - tus ei - us² As - cen - dunt us - que² ad

B 2
ta - ti sunt fluc - tus ei - us² As - cen - dunt us - que² ad

79 *sempre f*

S 1 depths _____ you're a -

S 2 _____ *sempre f*
ma - re in na - vi - bus ma - re in na - vi - bus

S 3 _____ *sempre f*
us - que ad ab - ys - sos _____

S 4 cae - los et des - cen - dunt _____

A 1 _____ *sempre f*
depths _____ you're a -

A 2 _____ *sempre f*
depths _____ you're a -

A 3 ma - re in na - vi - bus ma - re in na - vi - bus

T 1 _____ *sempre f*
cae - los ⁴ et des - cen - dunt us - que ad ab - ys - sos

T 2 _____ *sempre f*
cae - los ⁴ et des - cen - dunt us - que ad ab - ys - sos

B 1 _____ *sempre f*
cae - los ⁴ et des - cen - dunt us - que ad ab - ys - sos

B 2 _____ *sempre f*
cae - los ⁴ et des - cen - dunt us - que ad ab - ys - sos

83

cresc.

S 1 lone you're a - lone with the whir - ling cos - mos *ff*

cresc.

S 2 in ma-lis ta-bes-ce-bat

cresc.

S 3 lone with the whir - ling cos - mos

sempre f

S 4 a - ni - ma e - o - rum whir - ling cos - mos

cresc.

A 1 lone you're a - lone with the whir - ling cos - mos

cresc.

A 2 lone you're a - lone with the whir - ling cos - mos

sempre f

A 3 ma-re in na-vi-bus ma-re in na-vi-bus in ma-lis ta-bes - ce-bat

cresc.

T 1 a - ni-ma e - o - rum in ma - lis ta - bes - ce - bat

cresc.

T 2 a - ni-ma e - o - rum in ma - lis ta - bes - ce - bat

cresc.

B 1 a - ni-ma e - o - rum in ma - lis ta - bes - ce - bat

cresc.

B 2 a - ni-ma e - o - rum in ma - lis ta - bes - ce - bat

E 87 *ff*

S 1 ah ah ah ah

S 2 ah ah ah

S 3 ah ah

S 4 ah ah

A 1 ah

A 2 ah

A 3 ah

T 1 Et cla-me-ve-runt ad Do-mi-num, et cla-me-ve-runt ad Do-mi-

T 2 Et cla-me-ve-runt ad Do-mi-num, et cla-me-ve-runt ad Do-mi-

B 1 Et cla-me-ve-runt ad Do-mi-num, et cla-me-ve-runt ad Do-mi-

B 2 *ff*
Do-mi-num Et cla-me-

91

S 1
ah ah ah

S 2
ah ah ah ah

S 3
sempre ff
Do - mi - num Do - mi - num

S 4
sempre ff
Do - mi - num Do - mi - num

A 1
sempre ff
Do - mi - num Do - mi - num

A 2
sempre ff
ah Do - mi - num Do - mi - num

A 3
ah

T 1
num, et cla - me - ve - runt ad Do - mi - num, et cla - me - ve - runt ad Do - mi -

T 2
num, et cla - me - ve - runt ad Do - mi - num, et cla - me - ve - runt ad Do - mi -

B 1
num, et cla - me ve - runt ad Do - mi - num, et cla - me ve - runt ad Do - mi -

B 2
ve - runt ad Do - mi -

F 95 Sopranos div. a 3

sempre f

S 1 Et cla - ma - ve - runt ad Do - mi - num _____ cum tri - bu -

sempre f

S 2 Et cla - ma - ve - runt ad Do - mi - num _____ cum tri - bu -

sempre f

S 3 Et cla - ma - ve - runt ad Do - mi - num _____

sempre f

A 1 Et cla - ma - ve - runt ad Do - mi - num _____ cum tri - bu -

sempre f

A 2 Et cla - ma - ve - runt ad Do - mi - num _____ cum tri - bu -

sempre f

A 3 Et cla - ma - ve - runt ad Do - mi - num _____

sempre f

T 1 num Et cla - ma - ve - runt ad Do - mi - num cum tri - bu -

sempre f

T 2 num Et cla - ma - ve - runt ad Do - mi - num cum tri - bu -

sempre f

B 1 num Et cla - ma - ve - runt ad Do - mi - num cum tri - bu -

sempre f

B 2 num Et cla - ma - ve - runt ad Do - mi - num cum tri - bu -

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G **Meno mosso** ♩ = 120

murmuring
pp legato

107

S 1 Et sta - tu -

S 2 Et sta-tu - it pro-cel-lam

S 3 Et

A 1 *p* e - os _____ *murmuring pp* legato Et sta-tu - it pro-cel-lam ei - us

A 2 *p* e - os _____

A 3 _____

T 1 *p* e - os _____ *p* breeze _____

T 2 _____ *p* breeze _____

B 1 *p* And he turned the storm _____ in - to a breeze _____

B 2 *p* And he turned the storm _____ in - to a breeze _____

112

p

S 1 it pro-cel-lam ei-us in au-ram ei-us in au-ram and its

S 2 ei-us in au-ram ei-us in au-ram _____ and its

S 3 sta-tu-it pro-cel-lam ei-us in au-ram ei-us in au-ram _____ and its

A 1 in au-ram ei-us in au-ram _____ and its

A 2 _____ and its

A 3 _____ and its

T 1 _____ and its

T 2 _____ and its

B 1 _____ and its

B 2 _____ and its

115

rit.
S1 top note - one voice

a tempo

S 1
waves were still

S 2
waves were still

S 3
waves were still

A 1
waves were still. ma - re, ma - re, ma -

A 2
waves were still still

A 3
waves were ma - re ma - re

T 1
waves were still

T 2
waves were still still

B 1
waves were still

B 2
mp
waves were still still

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H Poco meno mosso ♩ = 108

125

S 3
good - bye

A 1
re, ma - re

A 2
bye

A 3
ma - re ma - re

T 1

T 2
Good - bye love, far a -

131 **Altos div. a 2**

A 1
Night is end - less here, far a - way

A 2
Night is end - less

T 1

T 2
way, far a - way, good - bye love, far a - way, far a -

*Note for soli options: in m. 136 A1 takes the top notes (B-D) and A2 should sing the bottom notes of the A1 divisi (G-B). If singing these phrases tutti, sing as written.

136 Sopranos div. a 4

S 1

S 2

S 3

S 4

A 1
love _____ Night is end-less here, far a-way love _____

A 2
love _____ Night is end - less love _____

T 1
mp
good - bye _____ love, _____ far _____ a - way, far a - way, good -

T 2
way, good - bye _____ love, far a - way, far a - way, good -

B 1

B 2

141 *p*

S 1 si - lence in - fi - nite si - lence in - fi - nite

S 2 *p* As - cen - dunt us - que ad cae - los As - cen -

S 3 *p* si - lence in - fi - nite si - lence in - fi - nite

S 4 *p* As - cen - dunt us - que ad cae - los As - cen -

A 1 Night is end - less here, far a - way love _____

A 2 _____ Night is end - less love _____

T 1 *simile* bye _____ love, _____ far _____ a - way, _____ far a - way, _____ *p* good -

T 2 _____ love, far a - way, far a - way, _____ *p* good -

B 1 _____

B 2 _____

I
145

S 1
si - lence in - fi - nite si - lence in - fi - nite

S 2
dunt us - que ad cae - los As - cen - dunt us - que ad cae - los As - cen - dunt

S 3
si - lence in - fi - nite si - lence in - fi - nite

S 4
dunt us - que ad cae - los As - cen - dunt us - que ad cae - los As - cen - dunt

A 1
Night is end - less here, far a - way love _____ Night is

A 2
_____ Night is end - less love _____

T 1
bye _____ love, _____ far _____ a - way, far a - way, good - bye _____

T 2
bye _____ love, far a - way, far a - way, good - bye _____

B 1
p
et _____ de - dux - it _____ e -

B 2
mp
et _____ de - dux - it _____ e -

150 *cresc.*

S 1 si - lence in - fi - nite si - lence in - fi - nite

S 2 *cresc.* us - que ad cae - los As - cen - dunt us - que ad cae - los As - cen - dunt us -

S 3 *cresc.* si - lence in - fi - nite si - lence in - fi - nite

S 4 *cresc.* us - que ad cae - los As - cen - dunt us - que ad cae - los As - cen - dunt us -

A 1 *cresc.* end-less here, far a-way love _____ Night is end-less here,

A 2 *cresc.* _____ Night is end - less love _____ Night is

T 1 *cresc.* love, _____ far _____ a - way, far a - way, good - bye _____ love, _____ far _____

T 2 *cresc.* love, far a - way, far a - way, good - bye _____ love, far a -

B 1 *cresc.* os _____ in _____ por - tum _____ vo -

B 2 *cresc.* os _____ in _____ por - tum _____ vo -

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160

S 1
si - lence in - fi - nite si - lence in - fi - nite

S 2
ad cae - los As - cen - dunt us - que ad cae - los As - cen - dunt us - que ad

S 3
si - lence in - fi - nite si - lence in - fi - nite

S 4
ad cae - los As - cen - dunt us - que ad cae - los

A 1
love _____ Night is end - less here, far a - way love _____

A 2
love _____ Night is end - less love _____

T 1
a - way, good - bye _____ love, _____ far _____ a - way, far a - way, good -

T 2
way, good - bye _____ love, far a - way, far a - way, good -

B 1
um _____

B 2
um _____

165

S 1

S 2
cae - los

S 3

S 4

A 1
Night is end-less here, far a-way love Night is

A 2
Night is end - less love

T 1
bye love, far a - way, far a - way,

T 2
bye love, far a - way, far a - way, good - bye

mp

mp

mp

poco a poco rit.

170

S

A 1
end-less here, far a-way love love love

A 2
Night is end-less love love love

T 1

T 2
love, far a-way, far a-way,

B 1

B 2

175

S
pp tutti

A 1
pp

A 2
pp

T 1
pp

T 2
p Good - bye *pp* love

B
pp

Select choral works by **laura hawley**:

A house of prayer SATB with piano or string quartet	L'eraclito Amoroso SATB with string quartet	Sonnet 43 SSATBB a cappella
Absence SSAATTBB + alto solo a cappella	Let's have some music SATB with piano (opt. bass)	Sonnet n3 SSATBB a cappella
And we kissed SSAA a cappella	Lincoln Cathedral SATB with piano (opt. bass)	Spanish Fisherman SATB with piano
Angels in the Snow SSA with piano	Loon, Crane, Land SATB with piano, oboe, vibraphone and marimba	Stone and sand SSSAAA a cappella
Au champ d'honneur Unison/2-part with piano	Maid on the Shore SSAA a cappella	Stones SSA with piano
Be music, night SSAATBB a cappella	Many voices, one song SA or SATB with piano	Strong Women's Song SSAA a cappella
Blink of an eye SATB a cappella	Mary Called it an Angel SATB a cappella	Tapestry SSAATTBB a cappella
Call yourself beautiful SSA or SATB with piano	Meadowlarks SSATB with piano	The Arrow and the Song SSSAA a cappella
Carol Trilogy SSAA divisi with piano	Möcht nones bitzeli läbe SATB with piano	The commendation SATB + solo with piano or organ
Chelsea Morning SSSAAA a cappella	Music Makers 2-part with piano	The Christ-Child SSA with organ
Christmas Snowflakes SSAA a cappella	No one asked me SSA, SATB, or TTBB with piano	The First snow of the year SATB with piano
Droplets SATB a cappella	O come, let us sing 2-part with piano	The Last Evening SSSSAAAATTBB a cappella
Earth's secret soul SATB a cappella	Pentecost SSATTBB a cappella	The Maple Key SSA with piano
Earth Voices Unison/2-part/SSA or SAB with piano	Qaujimavunga Kinaummangaarma I know who I am SSA with piano, violin, cello	The people you love SSATB a cappella
First snow of the year SATB with piano	Remember, woman SSAA a cappella with drum	The sun is mine Unison/2-part/SSA or SAB with piano
Gohyangui bon 2-part/SSA with piano	Rise up, my love SSAATBB a cappella	Versicles and Responses SSAA a cappella
In dulci jubilo SATB with piano	Salutation to the dawn SSSAA with piano	Vivre, Aimer, Partager Live, Love, Share (formerly titled "Alhamdoulillah") 2-part with piano and doumbek
In Flanders Fields SSAA a cappella	Sapiens SSAATTBB with percussion	
In Song SSATBB with piano or with bassoon, piano, vibraphone, and viola	Sky-born Music Unison/2-part with piano	
Lantern SSAATTBB a cappella		

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