

Death is a Dialog

for

Mezzo-Soprano, flute and bassoon

For Kari Lynn Skipper

Text by
Emily Dickinson

Music by
Joe L. Alexander

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Death is a Dialogue

mezzo-soprano, flute and bassoon

Program Notes

The song *Death is a Dialogue*, with text by Emily Dickinson, was composed in the spring of 1985 after my father's death. It was composed for the mezzo-soprano, Kari Skipper. The piece has also been arranged for mezzo-soprano, flute and Bb bass clarinet.

Performer Notes

Accidentals only apply to the line or space on which they are written. They remain in effect for the measure unless cancelled out by another accidental.

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Death Is a Dialogue

text by Emily Dickinson

Joe L. Alexander

f

Mezzo-Soprano

Death is a di - a - logue _____ be - tween the spi - rit and the Dust _____ "Dis-

legato

Flute

legato *mf*

Bassoon

mf

5

solve." says Death _____ The spi - rit "Sir I have a - no - ther trust _____

5

mp

p

mp

p

9

9

mf

mf

Detailed description: This is a musical score for three parts: Mezzo-Soprano, Flute, and Bassoon. The piece is in common time (C) and features a key signature of one sharp (F#). The Mezzo-Soprano part begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic and a legato line. The lyrics are: "Death is a di - a - logue _____ be - tween the spi - rit and the Dust _____ "Dis- solve." says Death _____ The spi - rit "Sir I have a - no - ther trust _____". The Flute and Bassoon parts provide accompaniment, with the Flute starting at measure 5 and the Bassoon at measure 5. Dynamics for the instruments include *mf*, *mp*, and *p*. The score is divided into three systems, with measures 5 and 9 marked at the beginning of the second and third systems respectively.

13

Death doubts it ar - gues from the ground_____

f *mf* *mf*

17

The spi - rit turns a - way Just lay - ing for the ev - i - dence

mp *pp* *mf*

21

An o - ver - coat of Clay_____

mp *p* *mf* *mp*

24

rit. al fine

pp *rit. al fine* *pp*

The composer welcomes any questions concerning *Death is a Dialog* and would greatly appreciate hearing about performances. Inquires and programs should be sent to:

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