

For the 2005-2006 Chamber Choir,
California State University, Long Beach.

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since feeling is first

For SATB chorus, accompanied

e.e. cummings

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since feeling is first
who pays any attention
to the syntax of things
will never wholly kiss you;
wholly to be a fool
while Spring is in the world

my blood approves,
and kisses are a better fate
than wisdom
lady i swear by all flowers. Don't cry
-- the best gesture of my brain is less than
your eyelids' flutter which says

we are for each other: then
laugh, leaning back in my arms
for life's not a paragraph

And death i think is no parenthesis
-- e.e. cummings

$\text{♩} = 60$ ($\text{♩} = 90$)

Musical score for the first system of the song. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 8/8. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 60 (half note = 90). The piano part starts with a dynamic of *f* and includes a *rit.* marking. The vocal line begins with a dynamic of *S. mf* and includes a *rit.* marking. The lyrics are: "since feel-ing is first who pays an - y at - ten - tion to the syn - tax of things will nev - er whol - ly kiss you; nev - er whol - ly, nev - er, nev - er, nev - er feel-ing is first who pays an - y at - ten - tion to the syn - tax of things will".

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Musical score for the second system of the song. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 8/8. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 60 (half note = 90). The piano part includes a *rit.* marking and a *mf* dynamic. The vocal line includes a *T. mf* dynamic and a *rit.* marking. The lyrics are: "whol - ly kiss you, nev - er kiss you, nev - er whol - ly kiss you, nev - er whol - ly kiss you, since feel-ing is first who pays an - y at - ten - tion to the (for rehearsal only) nev - er kiss you, nev - er whol - ly nev - er kiss you, nev - er kiss you, nev - er whol - ly kiss you; nev - er since feel-ing is first who pays".

16
nev - er whol - ly, nev - er whol - ly, nev - er whol - ly,
kiss you, nev - er kiss you,
whol - ly, nev - er whol - ly, nev - er whol - ly
an - y at - ten - tion to the syn - tax of things will nev - er whol - ly kiss

17
18

19
20
21 *f*
nev - er whol - ly, nev - er whol - ly, nev - er whol - ly, nev - er
nev - er whol - ly, nev - er whol - ly, nev - er whol - ly, nev - er
kiss you, kiss, whol - ly, nev - er whol - ly
you; kiss you, kiss, whol - ly, nev - er whol - ly

22
whol - ly, nev - er whol - ly kiss you;
end rehearsal only
cantabile
mp

23
24
25

26
27 *f*
whol - ly to be a fool
f

28
29

30
31
32
33
while Spring is in the world

34 *poco rit.* *mp* $\text{♩} = 60$

my blood ap - proves, my

37 *mf*

blood ap - proves, and kis - ses are bet - ter than
and kiss - es are a bet - ter fate than

41 *p*

wis - dom my blood ap - proves, my blood ap -

45 *f*

proves la - dy i swear by all flow - ers. Don't

Tempo I

49 *f*

cry the

53 *mf* *sc* *sd* *simile*

best ges - ture of my brain is less than your

56 *f*

eye - lids flut - ter which says we are for each

59 *f*

eye - lids flut - ter which says we are for each

60 oth - er: _____ laugh, _____ laugh, _____

61 oth - er: _____ laugh, _____ laugh, _____

62 oth - er: then laugh, _____ then laugh, _____ lean - ing

oth - er: then laugh, _____ then laugh, _____ lean - ing

63 _____ laugh, _____ lean - ing back in my arms

64 *mf* laugh, _____ lean - ing back in my arms

65 *mf* back in my arms laugh, _____ laugh, _____ laugh, _____

back in my arms laugh, _____ laugh, _____ laugh, _____

66 laugh, _____ laugh, _____ lean - ing laugh, _____ lean - ing

67 laugh, _____ laugh, _____ laugh, _____ lean - ing

68 laugh, _____ lean - ing laugh, _____ lean - ing

laugh, _____ laugh, _____ lean - ing

69 _____ laugh, _____ for life's

70 *poco rit.* laugh, _____ lean - ing, laugh, _____ for life's

71 *Slower* laugh, _____ for life's

laugh, _____ for life's

laugh, _____ lean - ing, laugh, _____ for life's

poco rit. *Slower*

72 73 74

not a par - a - graph and death i

Musical notation for measures 72-74, including vocal line and piano accompaniment.

75 76 77 78 S. p since

think is no pa - ren - the - sis

Musical notation for measures 75-78, including vocal line and piano accompaniment. Includes dynamic marking *p* and a fermata.

79 80 81 82

feel - ing is first

since feel - ing since feel - ing is first

since feel - ing is first

Musical notation for measures 79-82, including vocal line and piano accompaniment. Includes dynamic marking *p*.

83 84 rit. 85 86 87

nev - er whol - ly kiss you, kiss you

Musical notation for measures 83-87, including vocal line and piano accompaniment. Includes dynamic marking *rit.* and a fermata.

For Review Purposes only; Photocopying this music is not permitted.