

Were you ever there?

from *Two Love Songs*
for Bass-Baritone

Text and Music
by Nicholas Vines
for James Martin

Sentimental, but never ridiculously so ♩ = c. 56

Musical score for the first system, measures 1-5. The vocal line is in bass clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 3/4 time signature. The piano accompaniment is in bass clef with the same key signature and time signature. The piano part features a triplet in the right hand and a single note in the left hand. Dynamics include *ppp* (very pale) and *sim.* (sostenuto).

Musical score for the second system, measures 6-10. The vocal line includes the lyrics "I would like to know:". The piano accompaniment continues with a triplet in the right hand. Dynamics include *pp* (pianissimo) and *mp* (mezzo-piano). Performance instructions include *molto legato: like thick molasses*.

Musical score for the third system, measures 11-15. The vocal line includes the lyrics "Were you e - ver there? In your". The piano accompaniment continues with a triplet in the right hand. Dynamics include *pp* (pianissimo) and *p* (piano). Performance instructions include *progressively more agitated*.

15 *mf* *p*

mouth's gil - ded frame, Drenched in ho - ney - comb phra - - - ses that

15 *mp* progressively more animated

17 *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

all taste the same; Con - tor - ted in con - cord with a - ny - thing, And e - v'ry -

17

20 *mf* *sempre f*

thing; En - cased by the hard ob - li - vi - on of your

20

♩ = c.64

with great opulence

23

fpp

mp

pp

de-li-cate stare? I would like to know: Were

23

pp

with delicate fluidity

mp

26

mp

pp

mp

pp

you e-ver there? You have al-ways known: Were

26

pp

sim.

mp

pp

mp

30

mp

p poco a poco cresc.

you e-ver there? Did you breathe life in-to My

30

pp

mp

pp

mp

33

cold, form - less thoughts; or did I see you In

33

p *mf* *p* *mf*

35

place of hea - ring my Own poun - ding voice, im -

35

mp *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mf* *cresc.*

sempre ff in ecstatic misery

37

plo - ring to know why I can - - - -

37

sempre ff heraldic

39

not see you here,

41

I can't be - gin to

43

find you. Did I give spi - rit to A

poco a poco decresc.
again with great opulence

mp
again with delicate fluidity

f

45

shape - less death: or did you feel my En - nob-ling, san - guine cry You

45

48

have al - ways known: Were you e - ver there? I

48

51

would like to know: Were you e - ver

51

♩ = c. 56

54

poco rit.

pp

f

sempre

less and less agitated

with me? En - - - - - grossed by your own im - pla - ca - ble touch, as

54

f *less and less animated*

57

p

mf

p

mf

if quite a-lone; Co - cooned by dis - cord, Whose mag - na - ni - - mi - ty is as -

57

mp

60

p

mf

pp

mp

sured; Smeared with a-ce-tone words from trans - pa-ren-cy's fears, And your

60

molto legato: like thick molasses

63

pp *mp* *pp*

lips' paint-ed tears; You have al-ways known: You

63

pp
very pale

67

mp

were ne-ver there.

67

ppp

71

(till nothing)

71

ppp