

When I Write By Hand, a poem by Maria Teutsch

I asked Maria to give me lyrics to score a section of the audio drama "Waking Up," where the main character is transported to a fabricated (by a brain chip) memory from childhood. When describing her resultant poem, she mentioned that she'd recently noticed how her mother's penmanship began showing up in her writing.

The music begins by asking the performer to share a few qualities they've inherited from their parents. It can be as trivial as the way you walk, or little expressions you grunt when you get up, or perhaps larger things like addictive behavior, certain climates of mood, etc. Please speak the manner you would if you were sharing this information with a friend at a party. Dynamics should be conversational. Begin your answer with one word, then a one-sentence explanation of your answer -- perhaps how you first noticed it, or what you think of this inheritance.

After answering, sing the note as written. Wide, changing vibrato. *Messa di voce* in very long breaths. Dynamics and length *ad lib*. Try to not complete note at same moment as other performers. Once complete, repeat exercise and describe another quality you inherited.

Boxed sections in measures 21 through 30 are rhythmical in nature, tempo should be roughly adhered to with most sections asking performers to stagger their repetitions. Note in measure 30, all staves are in a single box, meaning performers should sing synchronised.

When I Write By Hand

Maria Teutsch

for SSATB Voices *a cappella*

Ghan Patel

Larghissimo

Adagio q=72

mesa di voce, vibrato rubato

expressivo, molto rubato

Soprano

When I write

- Describe a personal quality you've inherited from your parents.
Say it in one word. Then explain in one sentence.

Alto

Tenor

Bass

8

by hand out flows my dead fa - ther's

ou - t fl - ows my dead fa - ther's cur

hand

mp

mp bum

16

accel. q=110

cur sive

u-u-u-u-ur sive *senza rubato, meccanico*

bum

bum

21 00:00 *p* 00:30

as as

00:00 *q=70* *sing in precise time, but begin phrases on different beats from other singers* *accel.* *q=110* ** after last "me" 00:30 hold and finish together*

22

as though as though he's as though hes sen as though hes sen ding me

as though he's as though hes sen as though hes sen ding me

as though he's as though hes sen as though hessen ding me

as though as though hes sen as though hes sen ding me

23 rit. q=80

as though hes sen ding me a le - tter from my past to my fu ture self

as though hes sen ding me a le - tter from my past to my fu ture self

as though hes sen ding me a le - tter from my past to my fu ture self

as though hes sen ding me a le - tter from my past to my fu ture self

00:00 q=100 00:30

29 * overlap breaths for continuous tone

ah

ne-ver!

ne-ver!

ne-ver!

you are ne ver free you are ne ver free

you are ne ver free you are ne ver free

00:00 00:30

30

you are ne ver free you are ne ver free

you are ne ver free you are ne ver free

you are ne ver free you are ne ver free

you are ne ver free you are ne ver free

31 *tutti* *rit.* *f*

you are ne ver free you are ne ver free you are ne ver free you are ne ver free

you are ne ver free you are ne ver free you are ne ver free you are ne ver free

you are ne ver free you are ne ver free you are ne ver free you are ne ver free

you are ne ver free you are ne ver free you are ne ver free you are ne ver free

34 *f* *q=72 mf* *expressivo, molto rubato* *q=50*

f *p*^{fro} m the mu -

f *p*

f

40 *dashed line indicates rapid, unsynchronized repetition of "m"*

seu m of fa - mi - ly

m of fa - mi - ly

m of fa - mi - ly

m of fa - mi - ly