

Hecuba's Lament

for treble voices (SSAA)

Music by David Heuser
2000

Words by Homer
Adapted from a translation by William Cullon Bryant

duration = ca. 3'

Hecuba's Lament

Child!

Why do I live, my son, when you are dead,
And I so wretched? you who were my pride,
by night and day, wherever I went,
you whom the Trojans called
their pillar, honoring you as if you were
a god. They glory in your might no more,
since Fate and Death have overtaken you.

This text is from the *Illiad*, by Homer (ca. 780 B.C.), and was adapted by the composer from a translation by William Cullon Bryant. These words are spoken by Queen Hecuba of Troy, the mother of Hector, after he is killed by Achilles.

Hecuba's Lament

Words by Homer (ca. 780 B.C.)
Adapted from a translation by William Cullon Bryant

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♩ = 60

ff *gliss ** *n* *pp* *p*

Soprano 1
Child! Child! Child! Why do I live, my son, when

Soprano 2
Child! Child! Child! Why do I live, my son, when

Alto 1
Child! Child! Child! Why do I live, my son, when

Alto 2
Child! Child! Child! Why do I live, my son, when

Piano
ff *p*

8

pp *f* *p*

S. 1
you are dead, And I so wret - ched? you who were my pride, by night and

S. 2
you are dead, And I so wret - ched? you by night and

A. 1
you are dead, And I so wret - ched? you by night and

A. 2
you are dead, And I so wret - ched? you by night and

Pno.
p *f*

Ped.

* Slow glissando. Each singer should glissando independently. Do not try to finish on the same pitches as those around you. Do not coordinate glissandi in any way.