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# Hearing your words

*from Sonnets of the Fatal Interview*

*For SATB (div.) chorus*

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Stacy Garrop

### **Hearing your words**

Hearing your words, and not a word among them  
Tuned to my liking, on a salty day  
When inland woods were pushed by winds that flung them  
Hissing to leeward like a ton of spray,  
I thought how off Matinicus the tide  
Came pounding in, came running through the Gut,  
While from the Rock the warning whistle cried,  
And children whimpered, and the doors blew shut;  
There in the autumn when the men go forth,  
With slapping skirts the island women stand  
In gardens stripped and scattered, peering north,  
With dahlia tubers dripping from the hand:  
The wind of their endurance, driving south,  
Flattened your words against your speaking mouth.

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# Hearing your words

from *Sonnets of the Fatal Interview*

sonnet by  
Edna St. Vincent Millay

Stacy Garrop  
2005

$\text{♩} = 54$  *Discontented*

*f*

Soprano  
Hear-ing your words, and not a word a-mong them Tuned to my lik-ing, Tuned to my lik-ing,

Alto  
Hear-ing your words, and not a word a-mong them Tuned to my lik-ing, Tuned to my lik-ing,

Tenor  
Hear-ing your words, and not a word a-mong them Tuned to my lik-ing, Tuned to my lik-ing,

Bass  
Hear-ing your words, and not a word a-mong them Tuned to my lik-ing, Tuned to my lik-ing,

5

S. *mf mp*  
on a sal-ty day \_\_\_\_\_ When in-land woods were pushed by winds that flung them

A. *mf mp*  
on a sal-ty day \_\_\_\_\_ When in-land woods were pushed by winds that flung them

T. *p*  
Oo Oo Oo Oo Oo

B. *p*  
Oo Oo Oo Oo Oo

9

S. *Hiss-ing to lee-ward like a ton of spray, — I*

A. *Hiss-ing to lee-ward like a ton of spray, — I*

T. *Oo — Oh — Oh — Ah — Ah*

B. *Oo — Oo — Oh — Oh — Oh — Ah — Ah*

12

S. *thought how off\_Ma-tin-i cus the tide\_Came pound-ing in, — came run-ning through the Gut, While* *mf*

A. *thought how off\_Ma-tin-i cus the tide\_Came pound-ing in, — came run-ning through the Gut, While* *mf*

T. *Oo — Oo — Oo — Oh — Oh — Oh — Oh* *mp*

B. *Oo — Oo — Oo — Oh — Oh — Oh — Oh* *mp*

15

S. from the Rock the warn-ing whis-tle cried, And chil-dren whim-pered, and the

A. from the Rock the warn-ing whis-tle cried, And chil-dren whim-pered, and the

T. Ah Ah Ah Ah Ah Ah

B. Ah Ah Ah Ah Ah Ah

18

S. *mp* doors blew shut; *f* Hear-ing your words, Hear - ing your words, and

A. *mp* doors blew shut; on a sal - ty day *f* Hear-ing your words, Hear-ing and

T. *p* Ah *f* Hear-ing your words, Hear - ing your words,

B. *p* Ah *f* Hear-ing your words, Hear - ing your words,

21

S. not a word a-mong them Tuned to my lik-ing, Tuned to my lik-ing,

A. not a word a-mong them Tuned to my lik-ing, Tuned to my lik-ing,

T. not a word a-mong them Tuned to my lik-ing, Tuned to my lik-ing,

B. not a word a-mong them Tuned to my lik-ing, Tuned to my lik-ing,


24

S. *mf* on a sal - ty day *mp* Oo Oo *p* Oo Oo

A. *mf* on a sal - ty day *mp* Oo Oo *p* Oo Oo

T. *mf* Oh Oh *mp*

B. *mf* Oh Oh *mp* There in the au-tumn when the



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42 *mf*

S. When in - land woods were pushed by winds that flung them the tide Came

A. *mf*  
When in - land woods were pushed by winds that flung them the tide Came

T. *mf*  
Oo Ah Oo Ah Oo Ah Oo Ah

B. *mf*  
Oo Ah Oo Ah Oo Ah Oo Ah

44

S. pound - ing in, run-ning through the Gut, the warn-ing whis-tle chil-dren whim-pered,

A. pound - ing in, run-ning through the Gut, the warn-ing whis-tle chil-dren whim-pered,

T. Oo Ah Oo Ah Oo Ah Oo Ah

B. Oo Ah Oo Ah Oo Ah Oo Ah



46

S. *f*  
doors blew in the au-tumn when the men go forth, the is-land wom - en stand

A. *f*  
doors blew in the au-tumn when the men go forth, the is-land wom - en stand

T. *f*  
Oo Ah Oo Oo Ah Oo Ah Oo Ah Oo Ah

B. *f*  
Oo Ah Oo Ah Oo Ah Oo Ah Oo Ah Oo Ah

*Meno mosso*

49

S. *ff* *f*  
in gar - dens peer-ing north, The wind of their en - dur - ance driv-ing south,

A. *ff* *f*  
in gar - dens peer-ing north, The wind of their en - dur - ance driv-ing south,

T. *ff* *f*  
Oo Ah Oo Ah Oo Ah Oh The wind of their en - dur - ance driv-ing south,

B. *ff* *f*  
Oo Ah Oo Ah Oo Ah Oh The wind of their en - dur - ance driv-ing south,

*Rit.* ..... ♩. = 54

54 *ff* *f*

S. Flat-tened your words \_\_\_\_\_ a-gainst your speak - ing mouth. \_\_\_\_\_

A. *ff* *f* *mf*  
Flat-tened your words \_\_\_\_\_ Oo \_\_\_\_\_ Oh \_\_\_\_\_

T. *ff* *f*  
Flat-tened your words \_\_\_\_\_ a-gainst your speak - ing mouth. \_\_\_\_\_

B. *ff* *f* *mf*  
Flat-tened your words \_\_\_\_\_ Oo \_\_\_\_\_ Oh \_\_\_\_\_

59 *p*

S. \_\_\_\_\_ Mm

A. *mp* *p*  
Oo \_\_\_\_\_ Oh \_\_\_\_\_ Mm

T. *p*  
\_\_\_\_\_ Mm

B. *mp* *p*  
Oo \_\_\_\_\_ Oh \_\_\_\_\_ Mm