

Pillar ◊ Speak ◊ Awake

Poetry by Eva Counsell

Performance Notes:

Accidentals apply only to the notes in the same register and last throughout the measure.

All trills are meant to be played with the next highest chromatic pitch, unless otherwise noted.

Pillar

There are ways I could escape.

In raptor dreams
my flesh is torn in scavenging haste
and the shreds of me travel
beak-caught, into the sky blue.

In thoughts
my body disintegrates into its
infinitesimal self,
all skin cells and eyelashes
carried away like windswept seeds.

In sun strokes
I evaporate down to bleached bones,
releasing my liquid self into the passing
clouds
to fall again as rain.

But I cannot move.

I am that Biblical salt,
enflamed crystals of curiosity
trapped in a backwards glance
stillness unforgiven.

Speak

Teach me your tongues.
Drop your words, like diamonds,
around my strangled throat
a gleaming lover's necklace.

Cast your alphabet
into the clamp of my oyster heart
and harvest each iridescent word
from my still, submerged body.

Collect my ashes
and press them into paper
each thin, smoky sheet
another page in a waiting tome.

Transcribe me into a book of hours,
until the days fall away
and the blood-ink dries
in its silent sleeping well.

Then, I will speak through shrouds,
in screams that split stars
until the sky slips down
and catches us, illuminated.

Awake

Night's moons have descended
into the horizon's early blue
withdrawing their milky cloaks
behind the day's first burning.

In the squares of gold morning
curled into the sleeping folds of each
other,
we entwine, unwilling to disentangle
our many-limbed dreams.

Cups of sunlight rest rimful
awaiting our long, yawning throats
now open to the hour breaking,
open to the stretch of day.

Leaving starshine fields,
we lean into the stroke of sun,
rising, lightened at once
by the shapes of our beginning.

I. Pillar

♩ = 72-80

Clarinet in B \flat

Vibraphone

Piano

Soprano

Solo Violin

Solo Cello

pizz. *mf* 3

vibrato off

p

pizz. *mf* 5

5

B \flat Cl.

Vib.

Pno.

S.

S.Vln.

S.Vlc.

hard mallets *mp* 3

mp

There are —

There

3

9

B♭ Cl.

Vib.

Pno.

S.

S.Vln.

S.Vlc.

There are ___ ways

There are

ways ___

There are ___

13

B♭ Cl.

Vib.

Pno.

S.

S.Vln.

S.Vlc.

ways 1

There are

There There are ___

ways 1

17

B♭ Cl. *5*

Vib. *3* *3*

Pno.

S. *3* *f* *mp*
 could es - cape. In

S.Vln. *5* *3*

S.Vlc. *3*

20

B♭ Cl. *5*

Vib. *5* *5* *5* *3*

Pno. *mp* *3* *3* *3*

S. *3* *3* *3* *3*
 rap - tor dreams my flesh is torm in scav - eng - ing haste and the shreds of me trav - el

S.Vln. *3* *3* *3* *3*

S.Vlc. *3* *5*

23

B♭ Cl.

Vib.

Pno.

S.

S.Vln.

S.Vlc.

beak-caught in-to thesky blue. In thoughts my bod-y dis-in-te-grates

5

26

B♭ Cl.

Vib.

Pno.

S.

S.Vln.

S.Vlc.

in-to its in-fin-i-tes-i-mal self, all skin cells and eye-lash-es

3

29

B♭ Cl. 

Vib. 

Pno. 

S. 

S. Vln. 

S. Vlc. 

32

B♭ Cl. 

Vib. 

Pno. 

S. 

S. Vln. 

S. Vlc. 

35

B♭ Cl.

Vib.

Pno.

S. to fall a - gain as rain.

S.Vln.

S.Vlc.

38

B♭ Cl.

Vib.

Pno.

S. But I can - - - not.

S.Vln.

S.Vlc.

41

B♭ Cl.

Vib.

Pno.

S.

S.Vln.

S.Vlc.

mp *f* *p*

mp

move. _____

I am that bib - li - cal salt,

3

44

B♭ Cl.

Vib.

Pno.

S.

S.Vln.

S.Vlc.

s

(ped.)

en - flamed crys - tals of cur - i - o - si - ty

47

B♭ Cl.

Vib.

Pno.

S

S.Vln.

S.Vlc.

trapped

in a back - wards glance

50

B♭ Cl.

Vib.

Pno.

S

S.Vln.

S.Vlc.

(ped.)

still - ness

un - for - giv - en

9

B♭ Cl. *pp* *p* *mp* *p* *mp* *p*

Vib. *pp* *p* *mp* *p*

Pno. *p* *mp* *p*

S. *mf* *p* *mp*
 gleam - ing lov - er's neck - lace. Cast your al - pha - bet in - to the

Vln. *p* *pp* *p* *pp* *p*

Vlc. *p* *pp* *p*

13

B♭ Cl. *mp* *p* *mp* *p*

Vib. *mp* *p* *mp* *p*

Pno. *p* *mp* *mp*

S. *mf* *mp* *mp* *mf* *p* *mp*
 clamp of my oy - ster heart and har - vest each ir - i - descent word from my

Vln. *p* *mp* *p*

Vlc. *p* *mp* *mp*

25

B♭ Cl. *p* *pp*

Vib. *mp* *mp* *p*

Pno. *mp* *p*

S. *p* *mp* *p*
 a - noth - er page — in a wait - ing tome.

Vln. *pp* *p* *pp* *pizz.* *p*

Vlc. *pp* *pp*

29

B♭ Cl. *p* *5*

Vib. bowed *mp*

Pno. *mp*

S. *p* *mp* *p*
 Trans - cribe me — in - to a book of hours, un - til the days — — — — — fall a - way

Vln. arco sul pont. *pp*

Vlc. sul pont. *pp* *pizz.* *pp* *p*

33

B♭ Cl.

Vib.

Pno.

S

Vln.

Vlc.

p *mf* *ff*

hard sticks

mp *mf* *f* *ff*

and the blood ink dries in its si - lent sleep - ing well. Then,

add mute ord. *pp* *mf* *ff*

mute off

arco ord. *mf* *ff*

37

B♭ Cl.

Vib.

Pno.

S

Vln.

Vlc.

p

ff *f* *ff*

I will speak through shrouds, in screams that split stars un - til the sky slips

41

B♭ Cl.

Vib.

Pno.

S

Vln.

Vlc.

p

mp

p

pp

mp

p

pp

f

mp

p

pp

pp

pp

5

bowed

8va

8va

down

and catch - es us

il - lu - mi - nat - ed

add mute

add mute

45

B♭ Cl.

Vib.

Pno.

S

Vln.

Vlc.

ppp

f

ppp

ppp

ppp

ppp

8va

8va

3

3

3

III. Awake

$\text{♩} = 60$

Clarinet in B \flat

Vibraphone

Piano

Soprano

Solo Violin

Solo Cello

mp

And. (for entire movement)

mp

3

Night's moons have des-cen-ded

p

p

4

B \flat Cl.

Vib.

Pno.

S.

S. Vln.

S. Vlc.

mp

And. (for entire movement)

mp

3

in-to the-hor-i-zon's ear-ly blue with

p

p

7

B♭ Cl.

Vib.

Pno

S

S.Vln.

S.Vlc.

draw - ing their mil - ky cloaks

10

B♭ Cl.

Vib.

Pno

S

S.Vln.

S.Vlc.

be - hind the days first burn - ing

ppp

pp

pizz.

pp

19

B♭ Cl.

Vib.

Pno

S

S.Vln.

S.Vlc.

en - tan - gle our ma - ny limbed dreams.

ppp

mf

mp

ppp

22

B♭ Cl.

Vib.

Pno

S

S.Vln.

S.Vlc.

pp

pp

pizz.

24

B♭ Cl.

Vib.

Pno.

S.

S.Vln.

S.Vlc.

mp

mp

mp

ppp 5

ppp

Cups of sun - light rest rim - ful a - wait - ing our long yawn - ing

29

B♭ Cl.

Vib.

Pno.

S.

S.Vln.

S.Vlc.

p

p

throats now op - en to the hour break - ing o - pen to the stretch of

33

B♭ Cl.

Vib.

Pno

S

S.Vln.

S.Vlc.

p

mp

mf

f

ff

mp

the day. Leav - ing star - shine fields,

sul tasto

pp

arco sul tasto

pp

37

B♭ Cl.

Vib.

Pno

S

S.Vln.

S.Vlc.

mp

mp

we lean in - to the stroke of sun, ris - ing light - ened at once

mp

42

B♭ Cl.

Vib.

Pno.

S.

S.Vln.

S.Vlc.

p *mp* *mf* *p*

by the shape of our be - gin - - - ning.

ppp

ppp

45

B♭ Cl.

Vib.

Pno.

S.

S.Vln.

S.Vlc.

pp *p* *pp*

pont. 5 5

pp *pizz.*