

Ashes

**for choir, SATB,
with brief solos
for bass and soprano**

**words by Maira Benjamin
music by Matthew H. Fields**

5:10

Ashes

**Part of the
Humanist Hymnal Project**

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Ashes

Maira Benjamin

Matthew H. Fields

Largo, ♩ = 36

SOPRANO *pp* Smol - der - ing eyes *mp* Sear - ing *p* through the

ALTO *pp* Smol - der - ing eyes Sear ing through the

TENOR *pp* Smol - der - ing eyes Sear ing through the

BASS *pp* Smol - der - ing eyes Sear ing through the

rehearsal piano (optional, provided for learning purposes) *pp* *Largo, ♩ = 36* *mp* *p*

4 *pp* ash - es Fire - breath - ing words Burn - ing all thoughts

ash - es Fire - breath - ing words Burn - ing Burn - ing all

ash - - es Fire - breath - ing words Burn - ing Burn - ing Burn - ing all

ash - es Fire - breath - ing words Burn - ing all Burn - ing all

pp

9

pp

Ic - y voic - es — cres - cen - do ing —

pp

thoughts — Ic - y voic - es — cres - cen - do ing —

pp *p* *mp*

thoughts — Ic - y voic - es cres - cen - do ing — Ic - y voic - es Ic -

p

thoughts — Ic - y voic - es

15

mp *mf*

Ic - y voic - es cres - cen - do - ing o - - ver thrown glass - es —

mp *mf*

Ic - y voic - es cres - cen - do - ing o - - ver thrown glass - es —

mf

- y voic - es cres - cen - do - ing o - - ver thrown — glass - es —

mp *mf*

Ic - y voic - es cres - cen - do - ing o - - ver thrown — glass - es —

20 *mp* *p*

Walls_peeled back Walls_ peeled back Walls peeled back

mp *p*

Walls_peeled back Walls peeled back peeled back Walls_ peeled back Walls peeled back

mp *p*

Walls_peeled back Walls peeled back Walls peeled back Walls_ peeled back Walls

mp *p*

Walls peeled back Walls peeled back Walls

25 *f* *mf*

Walls_ peeled back Lay - ers Lay - ers Lay - ers of

f *mf*

Walls_ peeled back Lay - ers Lay - ers Lay - ers of

ff *f* *mf*

peeled back Walls_ peeled back Lay - ers Lay - ers Lay - ers of

f *mf*

peeled back Walls_ peeled back Lay - ers Lay - ers Lay - ers of

29

mp (enharmonic) *p*

pap - er torn a - part Lay - ers of pap - er torn a - part

mp *p* (enharmonic)

pap - er torn a - part Lay - ers of pap - er torn a - part a - part

mp *p* (enharmonic)

pap - er torn a - part Lay - ers of pap - er torn a - part

mp *p* (enharmonic)

pap - er torn a - part Lay - ers of pap - er torn a -

32

mp *mf*

Shat - tered dreams Splin - tered hopes Shat - tered dreams Shat - tered

mp *mf*

Shat - tered dreams Splin - tered hopes Shat - tered dreams Shat - tered

mp *mf*

Shat - tered Shat - tered dreams Splin - tered hopes Shat - tered dreams Shat -

mp *mf*

part Shat - tered dreams Splin - tered Splin - tered hopes Shat - tered dreams Shat -

35

f *ff*

dreams Splint-tered hopes_____ Wild nights with a - ban - don

f *ff*

dreams Splint-tered hopes_____ Wild nights with a - ban - don

f *ff*

tered dreams Splin - tered hopes_____ Wild nights with a - ban - don

f *ff*

tered dreams Splin - tered hopes_____ Wild nights with a - ban - don

f *ff*

40

p *pp*

Now all I have_____ are ash - es_____

p *pp*

Now all I have_____ are ash - es_____ Now_ all I have_____ are

p *pp*

Now all I have_____ are ash - es_____ Now_ all I have are

p *pp*

Now all I have_____ are ash - es_____ Now_ all I have_____ are

p *pp*

44

ppp

(m) (m) (m)

ash - es

ppp

(m) (m) (m)

ash - es

ppp

(m) (m) (m) (m)

ash - es

SOLO pp mp

(m) Meet-ing the

ppp

ppp

pp mp

51

(m) (m)

(m) (m)

(m) (m) (m) (m) (m) (m) (m)

solo

slate - blue sea with sol-ids of grief

55

p Blue Blue up-on blue Blue up-on blue and more blue Your eyes are *pp*

p Blue Blue up-on blue Blue up-on blue up-on blue and more blue Your eyes are *pp*

p Blue blue up-on blue and more blue Your eyes are *pp*

solo tutti *p* Blue up-on blue and more blue Your eyes are *pp*

SOLO *mp*

62

mp I spread your ash-es (m) Sort-ing through soot and *mp*

grey like ash-es (m) Sort-ing through soot and *mp*

grey like ash - es (m) Sort-ing through soot and *mp*

grey like ash-es (m) Sort-ing through soot and *mp*

68 **SOLO** *mf*

flakes I spread_ your ash - es The

p *mf*

flakes (m) The wind blows a-way your face

p *mf*

flakes (m) The wind blows a-way your face

p *mf*

flakes (m) The wind blows a-way your face

p *mf*

flakes (m) The wind blows a-way your face

mp *p* *mf*

73 *f* *mf* *p*

Fier - y re - mem-bran-ces of love_ Lust_ and hate_ Cool sooth - ing touch - es with

f *mf* *p*

Fier - y re - mem-bran-ces of love_ Lust_ and hate_ Cool sooth - ing touch - es with

f *mf* *p*

Fier - y re - mem-bran-ces of love_ Lust_ and hate_ Cool sooth - ing touch - es with

f *mf* *p*

Fier - y re - mem-bran-ces of love_ Lust_ and hate_ Cool sooth - ing touch - es with

f *mf* *p*

80

SOLO
pp

lin - - ger-ing sad - ness (m)

lin - - ger-ing sad - ness (m) (m)

lin - ger - ing sad - ness (m)

lin - - ger-ing sad - ness (m) (m)

I have no-thing of us No-thing of

ppp

ppp

ppp

ppp

ppp

ppp

ppp

86

solo

you No dreams to come true I

(m) I on - ly have ash - es

(m) I on - ly have ash - es

(m) I on - ly have ash - es

(m) (m) I on - ly have ash - es

pp

pp

pp

pp

pp