

for Bruce Kelly

Blue Psalm

Words: Dennis Lee

Music: John Burge

Just one more slow dirge around the block (♩ = 54)

Low Voice

Piano

mf *pesante* *dim.* *mf* *dim.*

mp

Keep _____

mf *mf* *f* *mp*

low, _____ my_ life, _____ keep_ low,

7

mf *mf* *dim.*

mf *p* *mp* *p*

my_ life, _____ keep low. Be still _____

13

mf *dim.* *mf* *dim.*

A

mf *mp* *mfp*

in the car-di-ac ses-sions, small when the cor-ner-stone gives.

19

mf *f*

I am not my self,

B

23

f(sub.)

dim.

I'm for-eign goods things own me, I know that now.

28

p < *mp* *p*

Keep low, lit - tle life.

33 C

p (no accents)

p *f*

keep low, Ni-co-tine owns me.

38

f (sub.)

Cho - les - trol too, and the sweet dead-ly booze owns my

43

bo - dy. *mp* And in my mind: *f* *mp* mon-ey, se-cur-i-ty,

48 **D**

fame— *f* how man-y non - stop com - pul - sions *mp* *f* re-peats their im-per-i-ous *mp*

52

f tics *mp (no cresc.)* in my e - go?

56

sempre p

61

E - - ven the dream of no e - go,

mp *p*

E

66

of good - bye de - sire: it

mp *p*

71

binds me and owns me.

mp *p* *mp* *p*

ritenuto

a tempo

p

And, be - ing: _____ teach me to be. _____

F

76

ritenuto *a tempo*

cresc.

Not crouch like this, _____ in cob - bled time, _____ in stig -

81

cresc.

f

ma. not freak on a leash. _____ nor list - less_ in slav - er - y trudge, _____

G

86

f

più f *dim.*

cap-tive, a - broad, and mouth - ing the a - li - en

90

più f *dim.*

ritenuto *a tempo* *p*

tongue ... Yes, and the

95

ritenuto *sempre p* *a tempo*

[H]

mp

un - strung harp hung high, hung high,

100

(mp)

still dream - - - ing what dirge?

106

(mp) *p*

what rage? what

111

I

wind - borne_ snatch of_ home?

116

distant

122 **J**

Keep_ low, _____ my life, _____ keep_

128

low, _____ my life, _____ keep low, _____

134

keep low, _____