

Sonnet for a Major Birthday

Rev. 7/9/19

Adagio ♩ = 69
Mournfully

Tenor

Piano

p

pp

It was a birth-day I had

6

mf

f

dread-ed_ for months, the creak-ing door to An-cient and His-tor ic,_ and I thought how I

10

p

pp

was so live-ly once and nev-er would be_ a-gain (a-las, poor Yor-ick),_

15

mf

mp

and then the day it-self, so ver-y or-di-nar-y_

19
 8
 qui-et, part-ly cloud-y,— warm. Swift. One more Au-gust day on our ex-ten-sive prai-rie,—

23
 8
 and or-di-nar-i-ness was my birth-day gift.

rit.

rit.

p

Adagio ♩ = 66

27
 8
 Noth-ing hap-pened.— Cof-fee, fried eggs, and ba-con,— a hot show-er,— the

p

mp

pp

p

30
 8
 or-di-nar-y stuff of hap-pi-ness,— to which I hope eve-ry morn-ing to a-wak-en— un-til one

mf

f

mp

mf

Furiously ♩ = 104

34

day I don't, which is not for me to guess. Thir-ty,--

38

for-ty,-- fif-ty,-- and then (O my God) six-ty

Andante ♩ = 92

42

five, but it's o-kay you wake up, you

Wait for laughter to subside

Furiously ♩ = 108

47

yawn, you're still a-live.