

II. Life's Tragedy

Text by Paul Lawrence Dunbar*)

Robert Paterson
(2009)

$\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 72, \text{ adagio}$

mf

Sop. *mf* not to sing at

Alto *mf* It may be mis-er-y not to sing at all,

Ten. *mf* It may mis-er-y not to sing all,

Bass *mf* It may be mis-er-y not to sing all,

5 *p* *mf*

Sop. all, to go si-lent through the brim-ming

Alto *p* *mf* And to go si-lent through the brim-ming day;

Ten. *p* *mf* And go si-lent through the brim-ming day;

Bass *p* *mf* And si-lent through the brim-ming day;

*) *Life's Tragedy* by Paul Lawrence Dunbar, 1903. Text in the Public Domain.

ON THE DAY THE WORLD ENDS

9

Sop. day; nev-er to be loved, *f* *mf*

Alto It may be mis-er-y nev-er to be loved, But deep-er griefs than *f* *mf*

Ten. It may mis - er - y nev - er loved, *f* *mf*

Bass It may be mis - er - y nev - er loved, But deep-er griefs than *f* *mf*

14

Sop. mis - er - y mis - er - y mis - er - y Life's Trag-e - dy. *p*

Sop. 2 mis - er - y mis - er - y mis - er - y Life's Trag-e - dy. *p* *gl.*

Alto these mis - er - y mis - er - y mis - er - y Life's Trag-e - dy. To *p* / *mf*

Ten. way. mis - er - y *p*

Bass these be-set the way. mis - er - y *p*

ON THE DAY THE WORLD ENDS

19 *mp*

Sop. *mp*
sing _____ sing _____ sing _____ sing

Alto
sing _____ the per-fect song, _____ And by a

Ten. *mp* *mf*
mis - It er - y Life's Trag - e - dy. mis - er - y Life's Trag - e - dy.

Bass *mp* *mf*
mis - er - y Life's Trag - e - dy. mis - er - y Life's Trag - e - dy.

23

Sop.

Alto *f* *mf* *p*
half-tone _____ lost the key, _____ mis-er - y

Ten. *p* *mf*
mis - er - y Life's Trag - e - dy. Trag - e - dy. mis - er - y mis - er - y

Bass *p* *mf*
mis - er - y Life's Trag - e - dy. Trag - e - dy. mis - er - y mis - er - y

ON THE DAY THE WORLD ENDS

28 *f* *gl.* *ff*

Sop. There — the po-tent sor-row, there the grief, The pale, sad star-ing of

Alto There — the po-tent sor-row, there the grief, The pale, sad star-ing of

Ten. *f* *mf* *gl.* *ff* *mf*
mis - er - y mis - er - y mis - er - y mis - er - y star-ing of

Ten. 2 *f* *mf* *ff* *mf*
mis - er - y mis - er - y mis - er - y

Bass *f* *mf* *ff* *f* *mf*
mis - may er - y mis - er - y mis - er - y

Bass 2 *f* *gl.* *mf*
mis - er - y

33 *ff*

Sop. Life's

Alto Life's — Trag - e - dy. To have

Alto 2 *ff* *gl.* *mf*
Trag - e - dy.

Ten. *ff* *mf*
Life's Trag - - e - dy. Trag - e - dy. Trag - e - dy. Trag - e - dy.

Bass *ff* *mf*
Trag - - e - dy. Trag - e - dy. Trag - e - dy. Trag - e - dy.