

CENTERS

for mezzo-soprano & piano
based on a poem by Emily Dickinson

♩ = 60 (constant throughout)

by Cliff Crego

sempre: sostenuto e sonoro

f *sed.*
sempre

(all voices equal, with clear, marked, attacks)

7 **sempre: sostenuto e sonoro**

f Each _____ life

9

Con - - - ver-ges to some Center— Ex -

Ped.

11

pressed— or still— Ex-ists in eve-ry Hu-man Na-ture A

(quasi spoken)

Red.

13

Goal— Em - bod - ies scarce - ly

15

to it - self— it may be— Too fair

17

for Cred - i - bil - i - ty's pre - sump - tion To mar— - -
(quasi spoken)

19

A - dored with

21

cau - tion— as a Brit - - - - tle Heav -

23

en— To reach Were hope -

25

less, as the Rain-bow's Rai - ment To touch—

27

Yet per-se-vered toward—

(loco)

And.

29

sure— for the Dis-tance— How high— Un - to

31

the Saints' slow dil - i - gence— The Sky—

(d)

33

Un - - - gained — it may

(e)

* *ped.*

35

be — by a Life's low Ven - ture — But then —

(e)

* *ped.*

37

E - tern - i - ty En - a - bles the en -

3

39

deav - or - ing A - gain.

(play the 8th; marcato molto)

ff

* Red.

41

pp *ff* (l.v.)

duration: c. 3' 36"

On the Web at:
<http://www.cs-music.com/voice/centers-1.html>

Performance model at:
http://picture-poems.com/mp3/center_mix-32.mp3

[Each Life Converges to some Centre—]

Each Life Converges to some Center—
Expressed—or still—
Exists in every Human Nature
A Goal—

Embodies scarcely to itself—it may be—
Too fair
For Credibility's presumption
To mar—

Adored with caution—as a Brittle Heaven—
To reach
Were hopeless, as the Rainbow's Raiment
To touch—

Yet persevered toward—sure—for the Distance—
How high—
Unto the Saints' slow diligence—
The Sky—

Ungained—it may be—by a Life's low Venture—
But then—
Eternity enable the endeavoring
Again.

Emily Dickinson (1830 - 1886)