

# Crater Light

from "The Palm Trees Are Restless:  
Five poems of Kate Gale"

Music by Mark Abel

♩ = 78 *tr*

Piano *briskly*

without pedal

5

The man drink-ing whisk - ey sours

7

tells me a-bout his div-orce. The prob-lem was his wife, ap - pa rent-ly.

# Crater Light

10

She would not lie still. A - ny move-ment, a - ny-dis - trac - tion

12

Spoken or screamed  
caused mal-func - tion. She knew this She was warned. \_\_\_\_\_  
*on the edge of hysteria*

*non-cresc.*

15

Yet she moved \_\_\_\_\_ arms, ears, toes.

18

*with dramatic shape*  
Stay still, he said. His wife un-der

*churning, relentless*

8vb

# Crater Light

23

neath. Said it lou - der. She froze.

(8)

Detailed description: This system contains measures 23 through 27. The vocal line starts with a half rest, followed by the lyrics 'neath. Said it lou - der. She froze.' The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and sustained chords in the left hand. A circled '8' is located below the piano part.

28

The light changed. Moon - light, sha - dow.

(8)

Detailed description: This system contains measures 28 through 31. The vocal line has lyrics 'The light changed. Moon - light, sha - dow.' The piano accompaniment continues with the eighth-note pattern in the right hand and sustained chords in the left hand. A circled '8' is located below the piano part.

32  $\text{♩} = 95$

I can't fo - cus, he said.

*pull back a bit*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 32 through 35. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 95. The vocal line has lyrics 'I can't fo - cus, he said.' The piano accompaniment features a more active eighth-note pattern in the right hand. The instruction 'pull back a bit' is written in italics below the piano part.

36

She o-pened her eyes. Can I watch?

Detailed description: This system contains measures 36 through 40. The vocal line has lyrics 'She o-pened her eyes. Can I watch?' The piano accompaniment features a more active eighth-note pattern in the right hand. The system ends with a double bar line.

40 ♩ = 90

# Crater Light

Bet-ter not, he said. Noth-ing's\_ going to

*with heavy tread*

8<sup>vb</sup>

hap-pen, stay still. She knew he was right by the way the

(8)

*stronger*

moon's cra - ters. seized the light and re-flec-ted it back

*stress this phrase*

(8)-1

to earth through the win-dow. Un

♩ = 78

4

# Crater Light

54 *softer*

$\text{♩} = 60$

Spoken

a-ble to cre-ate light\_ of their own. Some re-cep-tors cre-ate.

*mp*

8va

58  $\text{♩} = 52$  *accel.*

78

She was sure of this. She stayed still, but he was right,

*f*

61

noth-ing hap-pened What he tells me? She was warned...

*f*

63

He

*f*

8va

66 *espressivo until end* Crater Light

buys me a drink. Hopes my mind will change. But

*espressivo until end*

(8)

69  $\text{♩} = 74$

my mind is with his wife in bed watch-ing the

(8)

73

moon's cra - ters.

8<sup>vb</sup>