

Commissioned by Singing City for the Singing City Songbook

When We Listen

Poetry by Susan Windle

Music by Andrea Clearfield, 2022

Andante (♩ = 46)
mp

Soprano
When we lis - ten deep - ly, each to_ each, you to me and I to you,
mp

Alto
When we lis - ten deep - ly, each to_ each, you to me and I to you,
mp

Tenor
When we lis - ten deep - ly, each to_ each, you to me and I to you,
mp *

Bass
When (nn) we lis - ten(nn)
* close to resonant "n" (like a hum)

mf

S.
there_ is a bridge be - tween us, stretched_ a - cross a
mf

A.
there_ is a bridge be - tween us, stretched_ a - cross a
mf

T.
there is a bridge be - tween us, stretched_ a - cross a
mf

B.
there is a bridge be - tween us, stretched a - cross a
mf

When We Listen

(♩ = ♩)
lilting

6

S. glis - 'ning gorge, a glis - 'ning gorge. The bridge it - self is love - ly, _____ a

A. glis - 'ning gorge, a glis - 'ning gorge. The bridge it - self is love - ly, _____ a

T. glis - 'ning gorge, a glis - 'ning gorge. The bridge it - self is love - ly, _____ a

B. glis - 'ning gorge, a glis - 'ning gorge. The bridge it - self is love - ly, _____ a

(♩ = ♩)
p

8

S. slen - der, sway - ing thing, love - ly as the snak - ing riv - er,

A. slen - der, sway - ing thing, love - ly as the snak - ing riv - er,

(baritone may join)
p

T. slen - der, sway - ing thing, love - ly as the snak - ing riv - er,

B. slen - der, sway - ing thing,

When We Listen

Sing 3x. Option to invite audience to join.

10 *f*

S. love - ly as the reach - ing rock. You_ and I___ a riv - er and a bridge.

A. love - ly as the reach - ing_ rock. You and I a riv - er and a bridge.

T. love - ly as the reach - ing rock. You_ and I___ a riv - er and a bridge.

B. *mf* *f*

A bridge,___ a riv - er and a bridge. A
 (bass part opt.) (no pickup
 3rd time)

12 *mp*

S. That's what I mean by heav - en. That's what I've been try - ing to say.

A. *mp*
 That's what I mean by heav - en. That's what I've been try - ing to say.

T. *mp*
 That's what I mean by heav - en. That's what I've been try - ing to say.

B. *mp*
 That's what I mean by heav - en, heav - en(nn)___

When We Listen

14 *mp*

S. When we lis - ten deep - ly, each to_ each, you to me and I to you,

A. *mp* When we lis - ten deep - ly, each to_ each, you to me and I to you,

T. *mp* When we lis - ten deep - ly, each to_ each, you to me and I to you,

B. *mp* When (nn) we lis - ten(nn)

opt. repeat *rall.*
p

17 *Lento*

S. each to_ each you to me and I to you, I to you.

A. each to_ each you to me and I to you, I to you.

T. each to_ each you to me and I to you, I to you.

B. we lis - ten(nn) I to you.

Performance Notes:

1. Measures 17–18

during “each to each,” acknowledge your neighbors.

during “you to me” make a beckoning gesture to the audience.

during “I to you” make an honoring, respectful motion such as bowing head, hand on heart.

2. Measures 17–18 may be repeated.

3. The entire piece may be repeated with audience participation in mm. 1–6, 11, 17–18.