

**From the composer:**

The following letter was received from Daniel Pearl's father, Judea Pearl:

Seven years have passed since that incomprehensible day when my son, Danny, was abducted and murdered in Karachi. In those seven years I have watched horrible scenes on television, I have visited dozens of Jihadi websites, I spoke to presidents, ministers, authors and spiritual leaders, addressed large and small crowds, about terrorism, conflicts, morality, civilization and humanity, spoke to Muslims, Christians and Jews, interviewed by the press and TV about this and other tragedies - - I thus became inert, rational, totally de-sensitized to pain, and yet, whenever I read these lines:

*Perhaps he is only resting.  
Perhaps in foreign places  
he measures the path of Your world, O God,  
Like a wondering monk, with kisses.*

my eyes get foggy again, and my heart overflows, I see Danny, as he was before that horrible day, still believing, despite everything he knew and saw, that man is not a predator to other men, but a brother, a kindred spirit, I see him carrying the heavy torch of civilization, standing his ground, our ground, I see the angels in heaven weeping in shame for a God that overslept his watch. And I hear Sharon Farber's music to *Mothers' Lament* as it was first sung by the Los Angeles Master Chorale:

*He measures the path of Your world, O God  
Like a wondering monk, with kisses.*

And I hear it sung by thousands choirs ringing the earth for sanity and humanity, each year, in October, on the annual Daniel Pearl World Music Days.

With kisses,

Judea Pearl  
Los Angeles  
January 11, 2009

**The Third Mother/Mothers' Lament**

by Nathan Alterman  
Translation by Robert Friend

Mothers are singing. Mothers are singing.  
A fist of thunder bangs down.  
Strong silence.  
Red-bearded lamps are marching  
In the empty streets in rows.

Autumn mortally ill, weary, inconsolable autumn,  
rain without beginning or end.  
No candle in the window, no light in the world  
Three mothers  
Sing.

I hear one of them say:  
 “He was here but yesterday.  
 I shall kiss his every fingernail and finger.  
 I see a tall ship in a calm bay,  
 And my son from the topmast hanging.”

And the second one says:  
 “My son is tall and quiet.  
 I am sewing a holiday shirt for my dear.  
 He’s walking in the fields. He will soon be here.  
 And he holds in his heart a lead bullet.”

And the third mother says with her wondering eyes:  
 “No one was dearer or kinder ...  
 Who shall weep when he comes if I cannot see?  
 I do not know where to find him.”

And she bathed her eyelashes with weeping.  
 Perhaps he is only resting.  
 Perhaps in foreign places  
 He measures the path of Your world, O God,  
 Like a wondering monk, with kisses.

### Translation and Pronunciation Guide

<u>Ee</u> -ma-hot Mothers	<u>sha</u> -rot. are singing.	<u>Ee</u> -ma-hot Mothers	<u>sha</u> -rot. are singing.		
<u>Eg-rof</u> A fist	<u>ra</u> -a’m of thunder	<u>nee-tach</u> . bangs down.	Doo-mee- <u>yah</u> Silence		cha-za- <u>kah</u> . strong.
<u>Ba-choo-tzot</u> In the streets	ha-rei- <u>kim</u> ; empty	<u>tza</u> -a-doo marched	beh-shoo- <u>rot</u> in rows		
pa-na- <u>seem</u> street lamps	a-doo- <u>mei</u> red	za- <u>kahn</u> . bearded.			
Stav Autumn	a- <u>noosh</u> , mortally ill,	stav autumn	yah- <u>ge</u> -ah, weary,		
ve lo and not	me-noo- <u>chahm</u> consolable	<u>hoo</u> -mah- <u>tahr</u> rain	blee without	ach- <u>reet</u> end	va- <u>roshe</u> . and beginning.
<u>Hoo</u> -vlee And without	ner candle	bah-chah- <u>lon</u> , in the window	<u>hoo</u> -vlee and without	or light	bah-oh- <u>lam</u> in the world
sha- <u>rot</u> singing	ee-mah- <u>hot</u> mothers	sha- <u>losh</u> . three.			

Ve-o- <u>me</u> -reht And says	ah- <u>chaht</u> : the first one:	reh-ee- <u>tee</u> -hoo I have seen him	ka- <u>eht</u> . just now.	
Ah-nah- <u>shehk</u> I will kiss	bo kol in him every	<u>etz</u> -bah finger	hta- <u>nah</u> little	veh-tzee- <u>po</u> -ren. and fingernail.
Ah-nee- <u>ya</u> 'h A ship	meh-hah- <u>le</u> 'h- <u>chet</u> is walking	bah- <u>yaam</u> in the ocean	ha-sha- <u>ket</u> calm	
hoo- <u>vnee</u> and my son	tah- <u>looy</u> is hanging	ahl from	rosh the top	ha- <u>to</u> -ren. mast.
Ve-o- <u>me</u> -reht And says	shnee- <u>yah</u> : the second one:			
Bnee My son	gah- <u>dol</u> is tall	veh-sha't- <u>kahn</u> and quiet		
vah-ah- <u>nee</u> and I am	poh koo- <u>to</u> 'h-net here a shirt	shel chahg of holiday	lo for him	to'h- <u>feh</u> -ret. sewing.
Hoo He	ho- <u>lech</u> is walking	ba-sah- <u>dot</u> . in the fields.		
Hoo He	yah- <u>gee</u> -ah will arrive	ad till	kahn. here.	
Hoo He	noh- <u>seh</u> holds	beh-lee- <u>boh</u> in his heart	kah- <u>door</u> bullet	o'- <u>feh</u> -ret. a lead.
Ve-ha- <u>em</u> And the mother	ha-shlee- <u>sheet</u> the third	beh-ehy- <u>neh</u> -ha with her eyes	to-ah lo is wondering	
ha- <u>yah</u> no one was	lee to me	yah- <u>kar</u> dearer	kah- <u>mo</u> -hoo. like he is.	
Ei- <u>cha</u> ' How	eh-ehvkc I will cry	lee-krah- <u>to</u> towards him	veh-ey- <u>neh</u> -nee and I cannot	ro- <u>ah</u> , see,
ehy- <u>neh</u> -nee I do not	yo- <u>dah</u> -aht know	ehy- <u>foh</u> where is	hoo. he.	
Ahz Then	ha- <u>be</u> -che the weeping	ro- <u>chetz</u> bathes	eht ree- <u>seh</u> -ha her eyelashes	sheh- <u>lah</u> . of her.
Veh-ooh- <u>lai</u> And perhaps	ohd loh not yet	nahch. rested.		
Veh-ooh- <u>lai</u> And maybe	hoo od he still	moh- <u>ded</u> measures	bee-neh-shee- <u>kot</u> , with kisses,	
ke-na- <u>zeer</u> like a monk	me-shoo- <u>lach</u> , wondering,			
et the	ne- <u>tiv</u> path	o'lam- <u>cha</u> of your world	Eh-lo- <u>haie</u> . my God.	

# Mothers' Lament

The Third Mother

Nathan Alterman\*

SATB *divisi, a cappella*

Sharon Farber

**Adagio, molto legato e espressivo**

*mp*  
Ee - ma-hot sha - rot. Ee - ma - hot sha - rot. Eg -

*mp*  
Ee - ma-hot sha - rot. Ee - ma - hot sha - rot. Eg -

*mp*  
Ee - ma-hot sha - rot. Ee - ma - hot sha - rot. Eg -

*mp*  
Ee - ma-hot sha - rot. Ee - ma - hot sha - rot. Eg -

5  
rof ra - a'm nee - tach. Doo - mee - yah cha - za - kah.

rof ra - a'm nee - tach. Doo - mee - yah cha - za - kah.

rof ra - a'm nee - tach. Doo - mee - yah cha - za - kah.

rof ra - a'm nee - tach. Doo - mee - yah cha - za - kah.

Duration: 8:00

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6  
9 *mp con moto*

Ba - choo - tzot — ha-rei - kim; tza - a - doo — beh-shoo-

*mp con moto*

Ba - choo - tzot rei - kim; sha-rot — ha-ee - ma - hot, a - doo shoo -

*mp con moto*

8 Ba - choo - tzot rei - kim; sha-rot ee - ma - hot,

*mp con moto*

Ba - choo - tzot rei - kim; sha-rot ee - ma - hot, doo shoo -

12 *cresc.*

rot pa - na - seem — a - doo -

*cresc.*

rot, sha - rot, — ha - ee - ma - pa - na - seem

*cresc.*

8 rot, sha - rot, ee - ma - pa - na - seem

*cresc.*

rot, sha - rot, pa - na - seem

14 *dim. e rit.* za - kahn.

- mei, — a - doo - mei — za - kahn.

mei, — a - doo - mei — za - kahn.

*dim. e rit.*

mei — za - kahn.

*dim. e rit.*

8 mei, mei, — a - doo - mei — za - kahn.

*dim. e rit.*

mei, — za - kahn.

17 *p* *a tempo* *molto cresc.* *mf*

Stav a-noosh, stav yah-geh-ah ve lo me-noo-chahm, stav a-noosh,

Stav a-noosh, stav lo me-noo-chahm, stav a-noosh,

21 *mp* *pp* *rit.* *mf a tempo*

stav a-noosh, a-noosh. Hoo-vee

stav a-noosh, a-noosh. Hoo-vee

*mp espress.* *rit.* *a tempo*

Hoo-mah-tahr blee ach-reet va-rosh.

25 *mp* *p*

ner bah-chah-lon, hoo-vee or bah-oh-lam shah-rot ee-mah-hot shah-losh.

ner bah-chah-lon, hoo-vee or bah-oh-lam shah-rot ee-mah-hot shah-losh.

*mf* *mp* *p*

ner lon, o lahm shah-rot ee-mah-hot shah-losh.

*mf* *mp* *p*

ner lon, o lahm shah-rot ee-mah-hot shah-losh.

27 *con moto*  
**mp** *molto cresc.* *mf* *dim. e rit.* Solo 1 *mf* *espress.*

Ve - o - me-reht ah - chaht: ah Ve - o -

*con moto*  
**mp** *molto cresc.* *mf* *dim. e rit.*

Ve ah - chaht: ah

*con moto* **mp** *molto cresc.* *mf* *dim. e rit.*

ah - chaht: ah

*con moto* *dim. e rit.*

30 *a tempo* *tutti* **mf** *rubato*

meh - ret ah-chaht: reh-ee - tee - hoo ka-eh. Ah-nah - shehk bo kol etz - bah kta -

*p* *a tempo* *mf* *rubato*

meh ah tee eht. Ah-nah - shehk bo etz - bah kta -

*p* *a tempo* *mf* *rubato*

meh ah tee eht. Ah-nah - shehk bo etz - bah kta -

*a tempo* *mf* *rubato*

nah - shehk bo etz - bah kta -

33 *cresc.*

nah veh - tzee - po - ren. Ah - nee - ya'h meh - hah - le'h - chet bah -

*cresc.*

nah tzee - po - ren. Ah - nee - ya'h meh - hah - le'h - chet bah -

*cresc.*

nah tzee - po - ren. meh - hah - le'h - chet

*cresc.*

nah tzee - po - ren. meh - hah - le'h - chet

35 *f* *sub. p*  
 yaam ha - sha - ket hoo - vnee  
 yaam sha - ket hoo - vnee tah - looy ahl rosh ha -  
 yaam sha - ket ahl rosh ha -  
 yaam sha - ket ha -

Solo 2 *a tempo* *mf* *espress.* *tutti* *rubato*  
 37 *rit.* *mf* *espress.* *tutti* *rubato*  
 to - ren. Ve - o - me - reht shnee-yah: Bnee gah - dol veh-sha't-kahn vah - ah -  
 to - ren. Meh yah dol kahn vah - ah -  
 to - ren. Meh yah dol kahn vah - ah -  
 to - ren. ah -

40  
 nee poh koo - to'h - net shel chahg lo to'h - feh - ret. Hoo ho -  
 nee poh to'h - net shel chahg lo to'h - feh - ret. Hoo ho -  
 nee poh to'h - net shel chahg to'h - feh - ret.  
 nee poh to'h - net shel chahg to'h - feh - ret.



10  
42

*molto cresc.* *ff* *meno mosso*

lech ba - sah - dot. Hoo yah - gee - ah ad kahn. Hoo noh -

*molto cresc.* *ff* *meno mosso*

lech ba - sah - dot. Hoo yah - gee - ah kahn. Hoo noh -

*molto cresc.* *ff* *meno mosso*

ba - sah - dot. Yah - gee - ah kahn. Hoo noh -

*molto cresc.* *ff* *meno mosso*

ba - sah - dot. Yah - gee - ah kahn. Hoo noh -

44

*mp* *a tempo*

seh beh - lee - boh kah - door o' - feh - ret. Ve - ha -

*a tempo*

seh beh - lee - boh kah - door o' - feh - ret.

*a tempo*

seh beh - lee - boh kah - door o' - feh - ret.

*a tempo*

seh beh - lee - boh kah - door o' - feh - ret.

46

*mp* *espress.* *f*

em ha - shlee-sheet beh - ehy - neh - ha to - ah lo ha -

*mp* *espress.* *f*

em sheet beh - ehy - neh - ha to - ah lo ha -

*mp* *espress.* *f*

em sheet beh - ehy - neh - ha to - ah lo ha -

*espress.* *f*

lo ha -

48 no vib. *sub. p*

3 yah lee yah-kar kah - mo - hoo, kah-mo - hoo,

3 no vib. *sub. p*

3 yah lee yah-kar kah - mo - hoo, kah-mo - hoo,

3 no vib. *sub. p*

3 yah lee yah-kar kah - mo - hoo, kah-mo - hoo,

3 no vib. *sub. p*

3 yah lee yah-kar kah - mo - hoo, kah-mo - hoo,

51 *con moto* *f* *mp*

hoo, kah - mo, kah - mo - hoo.

*con moto* *f* *mp*

hoo, kah - mo, yah-kahr kah - mo, kah - mo - hoo.

*con moto* *f* *mp*

hoo, kah - mo, yah-kahr kah - mo - hoo.

*con moto* *f* *mp*

hoo, kah - mo, kah - mo - hoo.

54 Solo 1 *mf* Ei - cha' eh - ehvkc lee - krah - to,

Solo 2 *mp* Ei - cha' eh - ehvkc lee - krah -

12 ei - cha' eh - ehvck lee - krah to, \_\_\_\_\_

56 *pp.* to lee - krah - to, \_\_\_\_\_ *tutti* oh \_\_\_\_\_

*p* to, \_\_\_\_\_

*mp* oh \_\_\_\_\_

58 *rit.* *ff* *Solo 1* *mp espress. ad lib.* veh - ey - neh - nee ro -

eh' - ehvck, \_\_\_\_\_ 3 3

oh eh' - ehvck, \_\_\_\_\_ 3

eh' - ehvck, \_\_\_\_\_ 3

oh eh' - ehvck, \_\_\_\_\_ 3

60 ah, \_\_\_\_\_ foh

*mp* *tutti* *mp* ehy - neh - nee yo - dah - aht ehy - foh

ehy - neh - nee yo - dah - aht ehy - foh

*mp* ehy - neh - nee yo - dah - aht ehy - foh

*mp* ehy - neh - nee yo - dah - aht ehy - foh

61 *sotto voce*

hoo, ehy - foh hoo.

hoo, ehy - foh hoo.

hoo, ehy - foh hoo.

hoo, ehy - foh hoo.

64 *mp*

Ahz ha - be - che ro - chetz eht ree - seh - ha sheh -

Ahz ha - be - che ro - chetz eht ree - seh - ha sheh -

Ahz ha - be - che ro - chetz eht ree - seh - ha sheh -

Ahz ha - be - che ro - chetz eht ree - seh - ha sheh -

Solo 1 Ahz ha - beh - che roh - chetz sheh -

67 *tutti*

lah, sheh - lah ha, ah - ha.

lah, eht ree - seh - ha sheh - sheh -

lah, lah ha, ah - ha.

lah, lah ha, ah - ha.

70 *mp*

Veh - ooh - lai ohd loh nahch.

Veh - ooh - lai ee - mah - hot shah -  
ee - mah - hot shah -

Veh - ooh - lai nah - ha -

Veh - ooh - lai ee - mah - hot shah -

72 *mf*

Veh - ooh - lai ohd loh nahch.

rot, ee - mah - hot.  
rot, ee - mah. Veh - ooh - lai mo - ded bee - neh - shee

veh ee - mah. Veh - ooh - lai mo - ded

rot, ee - mah - hot.

74 *f*

Veh - ooh - lai ohd loh nahch.

Veh od nahch.

kot. Veh - ooh - lai mo - ded bee - neh - shee -

Veh nahch. ded bee - neh - shee -

76

Veh - ooh - lai ohd loh nahch. Veh - ooh - lai hoo ohd moh - ded bee - neh - shee -  
allarg.

Veh - loh ah bee - neh - shee -  
allarg.

8 kot, loh ah bee - neh - shee -  
allarg.

kot, loh ah bee - neh - shee -

78

*ff* kot, ke - na - zeer me - shoo - lach.  
*dim. e rit.*

*ff* kot, oo - lai mo - ded bee - neh - shee - kot, ah!  
*dim. e rit.*

*ff* kot, ke - na - zir me - shoo - lach.  
*dim. e rit.*

*ff* kot, ah!

81

*mp a tempo* Ahz ha - beh - che ro - chetz eht ree -

*mp a tempo* Ahz ha - beh - che ro - chetz eht ree -

*mp a tempo* Ahz ha - beh - che ro - chetz eht ree -

*mp a tempo* Ahz ha - beh - che ro - chetz eht ree -

Solo 1 *Ve - oo - lai.* *sotto voce ad lib. p* *tutti rubato al fine*

seh - ha sheh - lah. Hoo moh-  
rubato al fine

seh - ha sheh - lah. Hoo moh-  
rubato al fine

seh - ha sheh - lah. rubato al fine

seh - ha sheh - lah.

86

ded been' - shee - kot, ke - na-zeer me - shoo - lach, et ne - tiv o' - lam -

ded been' - shee - kot, ke - na-zeer me - shoo - lach, et ne - tiv o' - lam -

ded kot, zeer lach, et ne - tiv o' - lam -

ded lach, et ne - tiv o' - lam -

87

*p sotto voce* Add Tam-Tam on last note of choir.

cha Eh - lo - haie.

cha Eh - lo - haie.

cha Eh - lo - haie.

cha Eh - lo - haie.