

Only a beginning

for violin and viola

JESSICA MEYER

Only a beginning

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5'

"Only a beginning" was inspired by words and music I interacted with during the Summer of 2015. The title comes from Indira Ghandi's quote:

"Martyrdom does not end something, it only a beginning."

I happen to stumble upon this quote after a week of performing Poulenc's "Dialogues of the Carmelites" at Caramoor and a chance encounter of hearing a friend sing the "In Paradisum" of the standard Catholic Funeral mass.

With all of these events coinciding, I could not help but reflect on what sacrifice means - what we think it means, and how it actually plays out in everyday life. We may sacrifice things for God, our spouse, our children, our family, our friends, sometimes even for people we don't even know.

This piece explores what can happen to us emotionally in this act of giving, and what we ultimately learn about ourselves in the process.

Only a beginning

"Martyrdom does not end something, it only a beginning." - Indira Gandhi

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♩ = 72 **Anxious**

Violin *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p* non vib.

Viola *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

A **B Prayer-like** vib.

Vln. *mp* *mp* *p*

Vla. *mp* *mp* *p* *gliss.* non vib.

ad lib. Recit. like

Vln. non vib. IV

Vla. vib. *mp* *p*

trill with harmonic using same finger

tr gliss.

C *sul tasto...more anxious*

Vln. *mp* *mp* *poco a poco ord.*

Vla. *mp* *mp* *poco a poco ord.*

sim. hooked bowing

D Heartfelt

Vln. *p* *mf*

Vla. *p* *mf*

E Fragile

25 **f** **pp** sul pont **mp** sul pont

tremolo **II** **I** **II** **I** **II** **I**

pulsate bow faster then slower tremolo

(melody)

32 **mp** **p** **pp** **f**

tremolo getting slower (melody) trill top note faster then slower ord. non vib.

pulsate bow faster then slower ord. pulsate bow faster then slower

F Pointed

41 **p** **f** **pp** *poco a poco cresc...*

pp *poco a poco cresc...*

45 **mp** **mp** *accel.*

3 3 3 3 6 6 6 6

47 **mf** **mf**

III II III II *sim.*

