

do you think

for ssaa voices a cappella

by hunter t. johnson
text by amanda lee anne roos (a.l.a.s.)

Author Biography

Amanda Lee Anne Roos was born in Cincinnati, Ohio in 1997. She grew a love and passion for writing in her childhood when she moved around with her family multiple times throughout her early life. She found refuge and familiarity in writing. Amanda proudly expresses herself as a queer woman, and her writing often reflects that as well. Her writing often has themes of LGBTQ+ issues, self love, and body image. Amanda turned toward her writing when struggling to find her identity as a queer woman. She hopes that her writing will help other young people not feel alone on the journey of self discovery. Her latest work, *love in progress*, expresses that self love and discovery is a life-long journey. Amanda graduated from Webster University in December of 2019 with a degree in Educational Studies with an emphasis in Community Engagement and is currently working as an Adoption Counselor at the Belleville Area Humane Society. She uses writing as a creative outlet and hopes that other people can find refuge and solidarity when reading her writing. Amanda currently resides in O'Fallon, Illinois, with her husband, Elliott, and her four cat children.

Composer Biography

hunter t. johnson (he/him) is a dynamic young composer with a rapidly growing catalog of choral works, art songs, and chamber pieces. He takes inspiration from issues of social justice and conflict, working to give voice to sentiments and ideas that he feels are ignored in everyday life. In composing vocal works, he seeks poetry and texts that range from those that explore nature and beauty to those that examine social issues such as self-harm, suicide, and other traditionally avoided topics. He has completed commissions for art songs and choral works, including several works for Grammy Award-winning soprano Christine Brewer. Other commissioning ensembles include Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Webster Groves, MO; the Webster University ChordLoks; and the Lindenwood University Concert Choir under the direction of Pamela Grooms.

more at huntertjohnson.com

performance note: do not overthink this notation, and sing/speak the truth.

for ssaa voices *a cappella*

hunter t. johnson

p hushed ,

ALTO

p hushed ,

do you think if i hold my breath long e-nough un - der the wa - ter

► *mournfully*

p , *f*
in this por-ce-lain bath-tub, the world will stop a-round me? the scars_____ on

mournfully

p in this por - ce - lain bath - tub the world will stop a - round me? *f* the scars

my thighs_ all have names_____ names,_ dates,

— on my thighs— all have names, names, dates, time stamps.

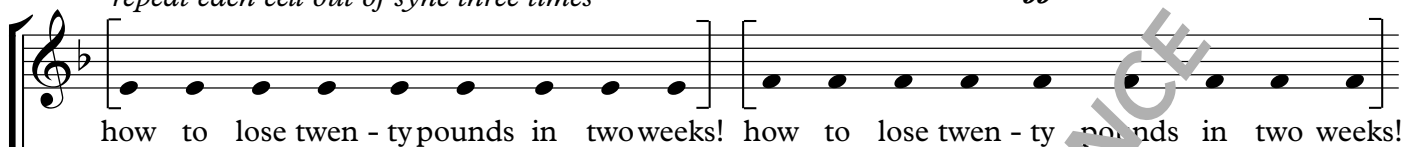
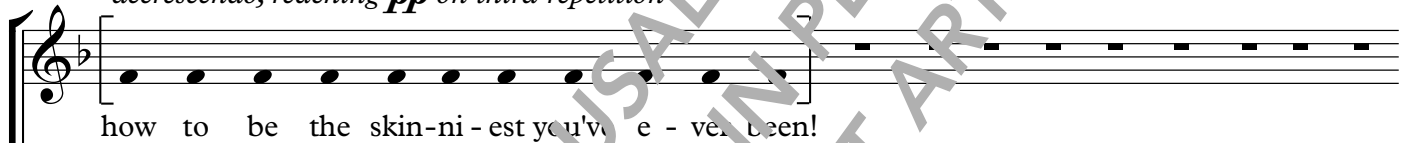
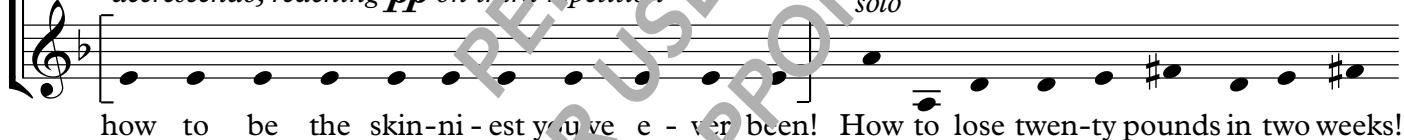
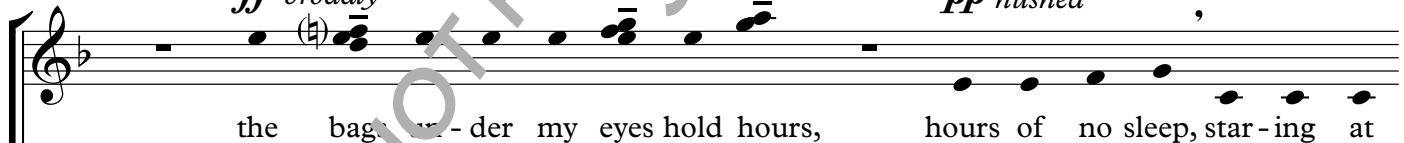
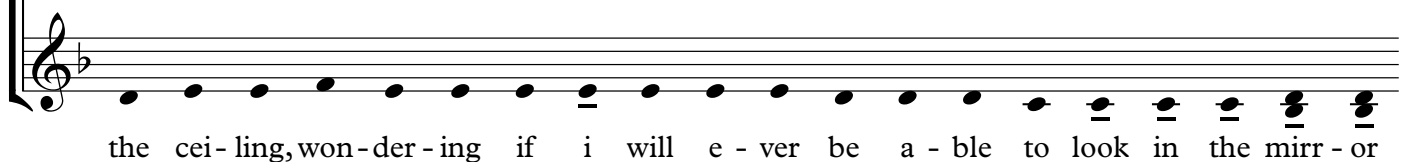
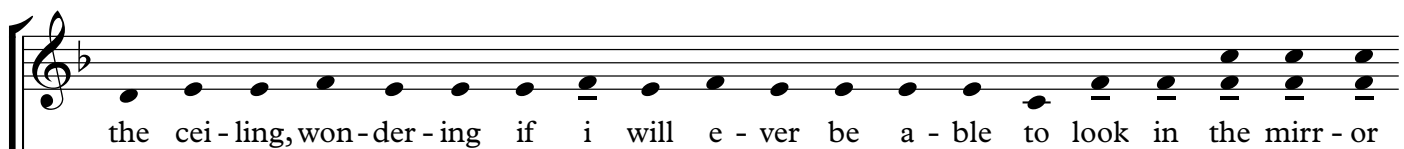
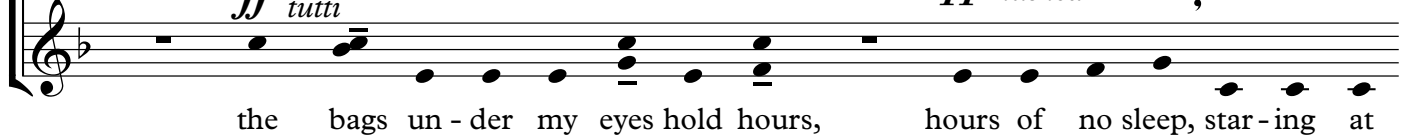
Soprano I divisi

***p** increasingly agitated*

mm_ my ribs pressed up a- gainst the skin of my chest all have head-lines:

p increasingly agitated

mm_ my ribs pressed up a-gainst the skin of my chest all have head-lines:

p*mockingly,
repeat each cell out of sync three times**crescendo, reaching **ff** on third repetition****p****mockingly
repeat each cell out of sync three times**crescendo, reaching **ff** on third repetition**decrescendo, reaching **pp** on third repetition**decrescendo, reaching **pp** on third repetition****p*** *sadly
solo****ff*** *broadly****pp*** *hushed****ff*** *broadly
tutti****pp*** *hushed*

mf

and not see my de-mons, the scars on my highs, my ribs, the

mf

and not see my de-mons, the scars on my thighs, my ribs, the

deliberately

bags un - der my eyes, but see the wo-man that's un - der neath the scars

deliberately

bags un - der my eyes, but see the wo-man that's un - der neath. the scars

on my thighs, my ribs, the bags un - der my eyes,

on my thighs, my ribs, the bags un - der my eyes,

repeat several times, quieting to silence

scars, — thighs, — ribs, — eyes, —

repeat several times, quieting to silence