## Character Pieces

for Male Chorus

### **Peter Schaffter**

- 1. Slender Boy
- 2. Just Me
- 3. In Darkness, Almost Unaware

### **Slender Boy**

#### Peter Schaffter

Slender boy no euphemism there when an opened door —

He stands, clothes conscious, beckoning law and men's desire,

And, somewhat invisible, a universe is fluid with dark and lights around him.

He is a sun,
which captures him,
and arrogant to have planets bound,
circling.

Slender boy; not for those who seek but those who stare and wonder.

# Just Me Peter Schaffter

Just me, lonely in my special place of night.

I want to point, say: "Look!" See, and I am not alone.

### In Darkness, Almost Unaware

Peter Schaffter

Your tongue I
where lips are crushed
in desperation
cling to
stifling cries of other love
denied escaping.

Symbol now, this act,
I have no fear of strangeness;
being what you are
I make you more;
in dark your understanding
of it only helps a little.

Holding arms—
such only men possess
so gently
take from me mature obsuring;
love released,
your hands become the cradle
to a hidden son.

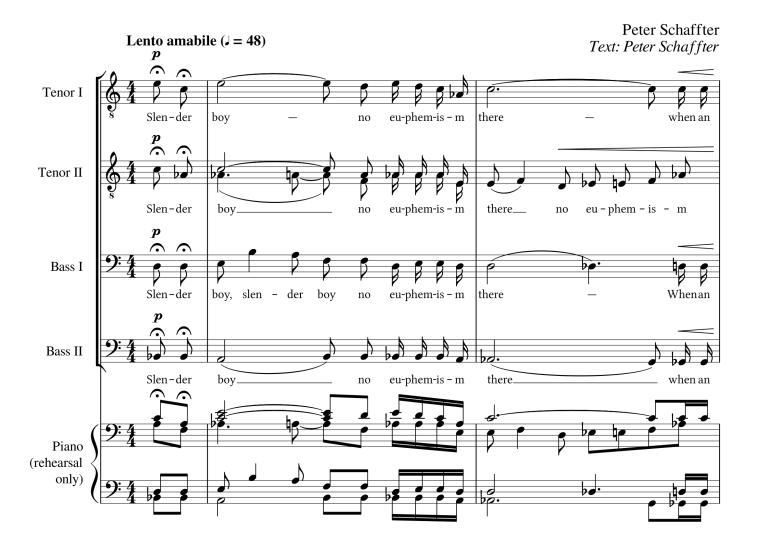
You gaze,

your expectations tender, not demanding; lift my head and lead me to a place where, strength imparted, my mouth encloses the all of you I could not have and moving child's body lulls you to relax and fill me with a father's milk.

Against you now,

my empty hunger over, and exploring with my hands in affection almost unaware, dark and warm, pretending to the one I did not know your body, lying quiet takes the child's gift of love.

## Slender Boy











### Just Me



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## In Darkness, Almost Unaware

















