The Anniversary

for piano or harp

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Play softly, *mezzo piano*, for the duration of the piece, allowing only gentle accents on notes which start a section, or notes which you think are important to highlight in a phrase. The single voice passage in mm. 36–49 can serve as a useful reference point: the sound of the low F must be audible to the audience throughout the passage, slowly decaying, yet not too loud.

The parts for the left and the right hand should be balanced in volume. Do not attempt to create a melody against an arpeggiated background, but rather blend the parts into a single entity. On piano this can be achieved by using the same dynamic level for both hands, but harpists should take their instrument's individual properties into consideration: occasionally the left hand part or the right hand part will need a little more volume, since very low and very high notes are involved at various points throughout the piece.

On harp, use no damping at all if possible. On piano, follow the pedal markings and avoid sharp breaks in sound density, except in a few places where either the markings indicate it, or where you feel a break is required.

Accel. and **Rit**. marks indicate only a slight increase/decrease in speed. Acceleration is no further than quarter note = 80, deceleration is either back to quarter note = 60, or (in mm. 59–60) to quarter note = 45.

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