

FIREFLIES

FROM THE LAW OF THERMODYNAMICS

for Soprano and Piano

Commissioned by Victoria Erickson, as part of Really Spicy Opera's

2022 Aria Institute: Soprano Low Residency Edition.

Ilima Considine

Madeline McNeill

$\text{♩} = 110$ (Determined) *mf*

Vee

Piano

f *mp* *mf*

5 *mf*

Vee

saved my tears: It was

Pno.

mf

10

Vee

no sur - prise; I'd

Pno.

15

Vee

be wait - ing.

Pno.

*[Quoting a phone call from a supplicant,
distressed memorines.
Do you still?]**

19

Vee

"Do you still--? Could you, one last time?"

Pno.

f

24

Vee

And the friend be - side-

Pno.

p

**This is open-ended as to whether the question is, do you still do advocacy?
Do you still perform abortions? Do you still have medication?
Do you still introduce people have that phone number?*

31

Vee

"Here's a hun - dred for next

Pno.

f

mf

[She stands up and leans on the railing, gathering strength as she imagines the network of women as points of light in the darkness. Mood changes to hope.]

38

Vee

time." Love, rest your un -

Pno.

mf

43

Vee

qui - et mind! We are name-less and

Pno.

47

Vee

read - y on the street's left side--

Pno.

52

mp

Vee

Look for the win - dow with the light.

Pno.

mp

57

mf

Vee

In the sud - den dark - ness,

Pno.

mf

64

Vee

in the sud - den night--

Pno.

68

Vee

f *mf*

I see us: flick - er-ing flick - er-ing

Pno.

f *mf*

73

Vee

bright. Ah! Like

Pno.

f *mf*

80

Vee

fi - re-flies fi - re-flies in the night.

Pno.

8

85

Vee

Fi - re - flies in the night.

Pno.

mp

f

mf

8

90

Vee

You can-not

Pno.

f

mf

94

Vee

mp

douse this in - ner light! And in the dark - ness,

Pno.

f *mp*

101

Vee

mf *mp*

each light bright - er, un-til all I

Pno.

mf *p*

109

Vee

mf *f*

see- Fi - re-flies in the night!

Pno.

mf *f*

117

mp *mf*

Vee

We are wait - ing: Pract - iced,

Pno.

mf *mp* *mf*

8----- 8-- 8--

125

mf

Vee

rea - dy. We are al -

Pno.

f *mf*

8-----

133

f *mp* *mf*

Vee

ways! We are fi - re -

Pno.

f *mf*

140

Vee

flies in the night!

Pno.

ff

ff

mf

146

Vee

*[She stands in the darkness
alone, quietly readying herself
for the future.]*

Pno.

mf *mp* *mf* *f* *mp* *p*