



SPEED AND PERFECTION

for mixed chorus (SATBB)

Katherine Saxon

1 minute 30 seconds

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Speed and Perfection

How quickly the season of apricots is over—
a single night's wind is enough.
I kneel on the ground, lifting one, then the next.
Eating those I can, before the bruises appear.

- Jane Hirshfield

SPEED AND PERFECTION

Jane Hirshfield*

Katherine Saxon

Tumbling *molto legato* (♩. = 60[♩]63)
mp

Soprano
How quick - ly the sea - son of a - pri - cots is o - ver

Alto

Tenor

Baritone
How

Bass

4

S
How quick - ly the

A
How quick - ly the sea - son of a - pri - cots is o - ver

T

B
quick - ly the sea - son of a - pri - cots is o - ver a sin - glenight's wind ____ is e -

B

* "Speed and Perfection" from *Given Sugar, Given Salt*, copyright © 2001 by Jane Hirshfield. Used by permission.

8

S
sea-son of a - pri - cots is o - ver a sin - gle night's wind _____ is e-nou(gh). - [f]

A
a sin - gle night's wind _____ is e - nou(gh). - [f] _____

mf
T
8 How quick - ly the sea - son of a - pri - cots is o - ver a sin - gle night's wind _____

B
nou(gh). - [f] _____ a sin - gle night's

mf
B
How quick - ly the sea - son of a - pri - cots is o - ver

12

rit. -----

a tempo
(♩. = 60 - 63)

S
_____ lift - ing one, then the next.

A
lift - ing one, then the next. then the next.

T
8 _____ is enou(gh). - [f] then thenext. one, then the next.

B
wind _____ is e - nou(gh). [f] lift - ing

Pensively ad lib.

B
I kneel on the ground,

17



Soprano: *mp* Eat - ing those I can, *f* Eat -

Alto: *mp* Eat - ing those I can, *f* Eat -

Tenor: *p* lift - ing one, then the next. *mf* Eat - ing those I

Bass 1: one, then the next. one, then the next. Eat - ing those I

Bass 2: lift - ing one, then the next. then the next.

21



Soprano: *rit.* - - ing those I can, *ff* be - fore the bruise - es *f* [wind sounds]*

Alto: - - ing those I can, *ff* be - fore the bruise - es *pp* ap - pear.

Tenor: can, those I can, *ff* be - fore the bruise - es *f* [wind sounds]*

Bass 1: can, those I can, *ff* be - fore the bruise - es *pp* How

Bass 2: *f* Eat - ing those I can, *ff* be - fore the bruise - es *f* [wind sounds]*

*To create wind sounds begin with a soft [h] and then blow air through [u] shaped lips. Vary the speed of the air to create higher and lower pitches.

25 **Tumbling** (♩. = 60 - 63)

S *pp* How quick-ly the

A *pp* How quick - ly the sea - son of a - pri - cots is o - ver.

T

B quick - ly the sea - son of a - pri - cots is o - ver. the sea - son of a - pri - cots

B

29

S sea-son of a - pri - cots is o - ver. How quick-ly the sea-son [wind sounds]*

A *pp* How quick-ly the sea-son of a - pri - cots is o - ver. [wind sounds]*

T *pp* How quick-ly the sea-son, the sea-son is o - ver. [wind sounds]*

B *pp* How quick-ly the sea-son of a - pri - cots the sea-son of a - pri - cots is o - ver.

B *pp* How quick-ly the sea-son of a - pri - cots is o - ver. [m]

*To create wind sounds begin with a soft [h] and then blow air through [u] shaped lips. Vary the speed of the air to create higher and lower pitches.