

Requiem of Ice and Snow

Benjamin Bolden

**Requiem aeternam
Dona eis, domine
Et lux perpetua
Luceat eis**

*Rest eternal
Grant them, Lord
And light eternal
Shine on them*

**Isedowet dayhamin
Keeuse dayhamin boobasha
Woothyan oomdzeck mammasheek
Oomdzeck Munes***

*Sleep, give
Sun, give warmth
Walk on the Happy Island
With good spirits*

In March of 1819, Demasduit, one of the few remaining indigenous Beothuk of Newfoundland, was captured by a party of English fur-traders. Her husband, Nonosabasut, was killed in the struggle.

Demasduit spent just under ten months living amongst the English. The colonists planned to train and use her as an emissary in a desperate final-hour attempt to communicate with the few surviving Beothuk people.

Demasduit's health declined rapidly. She pined for her people, her murdered husband, and particularly her young child. Her immune system was unused to European disease, and she became consumptive. The colonial government eventually realized the futility of using Demasduit as a pawn in their bid for reconciliation, and the potential for embarrassment should she die in British custody. *HMS Grasshopper* was dispatched to return the captive to her people.

Captain Buchan and his crew were unable to locate any Beothuk. Demasduit became too ill to accompany the search parties. She died aboard ship, January 8, 1820.

John Peyton Jr., the man responsible for Demasduit's capture, guided the expedition to return her body. The men trekked through ice and snow for twenty-nine days, reaching Demasduit's former home on the northwest shore of Red Indian Lake, February 11, 1820.

The frames of two wigwams were still standing, while a third had been converted into a burial hut. The body of Demasduit's husband, Nonosabasut, had been placed inside.

Demasduit's body was laid beside him.

****A note on the Beothuk text:***

Historians have left record of some 300 words, only, of the Beothuk language.

From these words I created a rough approximation of the Latin requiem text.

No one knows how these words were pronounced by the Beothuk people.

The vocabularies were collected by linguistic amateurs; the spellings are the only phonetic guide we have.

As those who took down these words were from Scotland and England, living in Newfoundland in the early nineteenth century,

I think it best to pronounce the words as though they were English.

As long as the choir is in agreement and pronounces the words the same way, it really doesn't matter how they sound.

Requiem of Ice and Snow

like a winter wind...
m.m. = 92

Benjamin Bolden

Women

1 *pp* Re - qui -

pp Re - qui -

pp *gliss.* Re - qui -

Men

Wmn.

8 em

em

em

Men

p I - I

p I - I

I - I - se do - weet day -

Wmn.

13 *p*

ae - ter -

p

ae - ter -

p

ae - ter

Men

8

ha - min

Wmn.

21 *very rhythmic and deliberate*

nam

nam

nam

Men

8 *mp* *f very rhythmic and deliberate*

Kee - use day - ha - min Wooth

mp *f*

Kee - use day - ha - min Wooth - yan oom - dzeck

mp *f*

day - ha - min Wooth - yan oom - dzeck

Wmn.

28

Men

8

mf

mp

p

Re - qui - em ae -

Wooth - yan oom - dzeck mam - ma - sheek oom - dzeck

mam - ma - sheek oom - dzeck Wooth - yan oom - dzeck mam - ma - sheek oom - dzeck

mam - ma - sheek oom - dzeck Wooth - yan oom - dzeck mam - ma - sheek oom - dzeck

Wmn.

33

Men

8

mp

mf

mp

Re - qui - em ae - ter - nam do - na e - is do - mi - ne

ter - nam do - na e - is do - mi - ne et lux per -

Wooth - yan oom - dzeck mam - ma - sheek oom - dzeck Wooth - yan oom -

Wooth - yan oom - dzeck mam - ma - sheek oom - dzeck Wooth - yan oom -

Wooth - yan oom - dzeck mam - ma - sheek oom - dzeck Wooth - yan oom -

38 *mf*

Wmn.

et lux per - pet - u - a lu - ce at e - is

mf

et lux per - pet - u - a lu - ce at e - is lu -

pet - u - a lu - ce at e - is lu - ce -

Men

8 *mf*

dzeck mam - ma - sheek oom - dzeck Wooth - yan oom - dzeck mam - ma - sheek oom -

mf

dzeck mam - ma - sheek oom - dzeck Wooth - yan oom - dzeck mam - ma - sheek oom -

mf

dzeck mam - ma - sheek oom - dzeck Wooth - yan oom - dzeck mam - ma - sheek oom -

43 *f* *mf*

Wmn.

lu - ce - at Re - qui re -

f *mf*

ce - at Re qui - Re -

f *mf*

at Re e - qui re - e - qui -

Men

8 *f* *mf*

dzeck Wooth - yan I - I -

f

dzeck Wooth - yan

f

dzeck Wooth - yan

49

Wmn.

qui re - qui re - qui re - qui - em

qui re - e - qui re - qui re - qui - em

re - qui re - qui re - qui - em

Men

8

se - do - weet day - ha - min

mf

I - I - se - do - weet day - ha - min

mf

I - I - se - do - weet day - ha - min

56 **faster: m.m. = 132** *mp* *mf*

Wmn.

ae - ter ae - ter

mp *mf*

ae - ter ae - ter

mp *mf*

ae - ter ae -

Men

faster: m.m. = 132 *mp*

8

I - se - do - weet day - ha - min

mp

I - se - do - weet day - ha - min

mp *mf*

I - se - do - weet day - ha - min Kee - use day -

62

Wmn.

ae - ter ae - ter nam Re - qui -

ae - ter ae - ter nam

ter ae - ter ae - ter nam

Men

8 Kee - use day - ha - min boo - ba - sha day - ha - min

Kee - use day - ha - min boo - ba - sha day - ha - min

ha - min boo - ba - sha day - ha - min

f *f* *f* *f* *f* *f* *f* *f* *f* *f*

68

Wmn.

em ae - ter - nam do - na e - is do -

Re - qui - em ae - ter - nam do - na e - is

Re - qui - em ae - ter - nam do - na e -

Men

8 Kee use day - ha - min boo - ba -

Kee use day - ha - min boo -

Kee - use day - ha - min

dim..... *dim.....* *dim.....* *dim.....* *dim.....* *dim.....* *dim.....* *dim.....*

74

Wmn.

mi - ne

do - mi - ne

is do - mi - ne

Men

8 sha

ba - sha

boo - ba - sha

Re - qui -

sharply rhythmic
p

p *sharply rhythmic*

Wooth - yan oom - dzeck Wooth - yan

81

Wmn.

Men

8

Wooth - yan oom - dzeck mam - ma - sheek oom - dzeck Wooth - yan

em ae - ter - nam do - na e - is do - mi - ne

oom - dzeck mam - ma - sheek oom - dzeck Wooth - yan oom - dzeck mam - ma - sheek

sharply rhythmic
p

87 *mf* *sharply rhythmic*

Wmn. re - qui - em ae - ter - nam do - na e - is

mf *sharply rhythmic*

oom - dzeck mam - ma - sheek oom - dzeck wooth - yan

mf *sharply rhythmic*

re - qui - em ae - ter - nam do - na e - is

Men *mf*

oom - dzeck Wooth - yan oom - dzeck mam - ma - sheek oom - dzeck Wooth - yan

mf

re - qui - em ae - ter - nam do - na e - is

mf

oom - dzeck Wooth - yan oom - dzeck mam - ma - sheek oom - dzeck Wooth - yan

93 *f*

Wmn. do - mi - ne do - mi - ne et lux per pet - u -

f

oom - dzeck wooth - yan oom - dzeck wooth - yan

f

do - mi - ne et lux per - pet - u -

Men *f*

oom - dzeck Wooth - yan oom - dzeck wooth - yan

f

do - mi - ne et lux per - pet - u -

f

oom - dzeck Wooth - yan oom - dzeck wooth - yan

Wmn.

97

a lu - ce at e - is re - qui - em ae - ter - nam re -

mam - ma - sheek wooth - yan oom - dzeck wooth - yan mam - ma - sheek wooth - yan

Men

8

a lu - ce at e - is re

mam - ma - sheek Wooth - yan oom - dzeck Wooth - yan mam - ma - sheek wooth - yan

a lu - ce at e - is re

mam - ma - sheek Wooth - yan oom - dzeck Wooth - yan mam - ma - sheek wooth - yan

Wmn.

103 *ff*

qui - em Do - na e - is,

ff oom - dzeck

ff qui - em *mp* do - mi -

Men

8

ff oom - dzeck

ff qui - em

ff oom - dzeck

Ease up: m.m.= 72

Ease up: m.m.= 72

109

Wmn.

Et lux per - pe - tu - a

ne

Men

8

Kee - use day - ha - min Boo - ba -

Kee - use day - ha - min Boo - ba -

Boo - ba -

115

Wmn.

lu - ce - at e - is

Re - qui -

Re - qui -

Re - qui -

Men

8

sha

Re - qui -

sha

Re - qui -

sha

Re - qui -

121 *rit...* *new tempo: m.m. = 120*

Wmn. *em.*

rit... *em.*

rit... *em.*

Men *rit...* *new tempo: m.m. = 120*

rit... *em.*

very deliberate mp

rit... *very deliberate mp*

em. Wooth - yan oom - dzeck wooth -

em. Wooth - yan oom - dzeck wooth -

129

Wmn.

smooth, steady, simple mp

smooth, steady, simple mp I - se - do - weet day - ha - min Kee - use day -

Men *smooth, steady, simple mp* Re - qui - em ae - ter - nam Do - na

yan mam - ma - sheek wooth - yan - oom -

yan mam - ma - sheek wooth - yan - oom -

135 *mp* *lightly* >

Wmn. I - se - do - weet I - se - do - weet day - ha - min

mf Re -

ha - min, I - se - do - weet day - ha - min Kee - use day - ha - min, I - se - do - weet

Men e - is Do - mi - ne Re - qui - em ae - ter -

dzeck wooth - yan mam - ma - sheek wooth -

dzeck wooth - yan mam - ma - sheek wooth -

141

Wmn. Re - qui - em re - qui - em ae - ter -

qui - em ae - ter

day - ha - min Kee - use day - ha - min, I - se - do - weet day - ha - min

Men nam Do - na e - is Do - mi - ne

yan oom - dzeck wooth - yan

yan oom dzeck wooth - yan

146

Wmn.

nam, ae - ter - nam

nam, do - na e - is

Kee-use day - ha-min, I - se - do-weet day - ha-min Kee-use day - ha-min,

Men

8 Re - qui - em ae - ter - nam Do - na e - is

mam - ma - sheek wooth - yan oom - dzeck

mam - ma - sheek wooth - yan oom dzeck wooth -

152 *mf*

Wmn.

I - se - do-weet I - se - do-weet day - ha - min *f*

do - mi ne, *f* et

mf I - se - do-weet day - ha - min Kee - use day - ha - min, *f* Kee - use

Men

8 Do - mi - ne Do - mi - ne Et

mf wooth - yan wooth - yan *f* oom - dzeck mam - ma - sheek

mf yan wooth - yan *f* oom - dzeck mam - ma - sheek

157

Wmn.

lux per - pe - tu - a

lux per - pet - u - a, luc - e -

day - ha - min boo - ba - sha, Kee - use day - ha - min

Men

lux per - pe - tu - a, lu - ce - at

wooth - yan - oom - dzeck mun - es

wooth - yan mun - es

mf

162

Wmn.

Kee - use day - ha - min lu - ce - at e - is Kee - use day - ha - min

at e - is, lu - ce - at e -

boo - ba - sha, Kee - use day - ha - min boo - ba -

Men

e - is, lu - ce - at e -

mun - es mun - es

oom - dzeck mun - es oom - dzeck

mf

167 *mp*

Wmn. boo - ba - sha ae - ter - nam re qui -

mp

is, re - qui -

mp

sha, Kee-use day - ha - min boo - ba - sha,

Men *mp*

is, re - qui - em, re - qui -

mp

mun - es mun - es ee

mp

mun - es ee

173 *p*

Wmn. em.

p

em.

p

em.

Men *p*

I - se - do - weet day - ha - min.

p

I - se - do - weet day - ha - min.

p

I - se - do - weet day - ha - min.