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The Letter

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The Letter
for tenor voice and piano

Benjamin Johnson
...for another life...
The Letter

Benjamin Johnson

\( j = 50 \text{ bpm} \)

(voice = free, expressive dynamics)

Tooth brush and socks  razors and soap  six

days worth of clothing that work interchangeably

Webster, The Bible a

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journal and Steinbeck all bound up with kite string a temple of thought but no music, no

Wrist watch a flashlight every size battery except for the round kind all still in the packaging, candy and cross-words
The Letter

news-papers mag-a-zines a hand-me down no-vel that I’ll nev-er fin-ish but no

mu-sic no mu-sic and no-thing but ho-urs to

tra-vel and think and re mem-ber the may-bes and what ifs and whys of my
youth and each moment without you turns faster to memory

until the hours and months passing by are just still frames of truth.

Nine-six dollars three
I.D.s and a card that proves I've earned two tenths of a free cup of coffee.

Sunglasses, raincoat, ticket to anywhere; shoe laces, matches, twelve unsharpened pencils but no

(black keys)
music, no music.

and this I can't open un-

...
only September and each day I'm older and I know what kinds of things can not be

said face to face, and you say it's silly to leave all that music ev'ry song I hear some-how was

written for you. And though I must go now for hunger and sleep this letter like its
The Letter

auth - or will find some - one new.

Tooth brush and socks razors and soap six days worth of clo - thing that work in - ter chang-a - bly

Web - ster, The Bi - ble a jour - nal and Stein - beck all
bound up with kite string a temple of thought
and that's

ev'ry thing that's ev'ry thing except...

ca. 4"