

Flame (2011)
Text by Garth Bardsley

A flame
Dispels the dark
Its delicate light repels the shadows

A flame alone
Brings within its flicker
A welcoming warmth

A single flame
That shares its light
Is but strengthened by this splitting in two

And as each flame
Begets another
Its life and light is multiplied
To become unending
Forever burning
A beacon that both beckons and guides
So to light the world

Duration *c.* 4 minutes

"Thousands of candles can be lit from a single candle,
and the life of the candle will not be shortened.
Happiness never decreases by being shared."

Siddhārtha Gautama Buddha

Flame

GARTH BARDSLEY

BEN PARRY

Very slow and atmospheric $\text{♩} = 42$

SOPRANO 1 *pp* $\overset{3}{\text{trill}}$
A flame Dis-pels the dark

SOPRANO 2 *pp* [stagger breathing]
hum

SOPRANO 3 *pp* [stagger breathing]
hum

ALTO 1 *pp*
A flame Dis - pels the dark

ALTO 2 *pp* [stagger breathing]
hum

ALTO 3 *pp* [stagger breathing]
hum

5
S1. \checkmark $\overset{3}{\text{trill}}$
Its de-li-cate light re - pels the

S2.

S3.

A1. \checkmark $\overset{3}{\text{trill}}$
Its de-li-cate light re - pels the

A2.

A3.

8

S1. sha - dows

S2.

S3.

A1. sha - dows

A2.

A3.

T1. *pp* A flame a - lone

T2. *pp* [stagger breathing] hum

T3. *pp* [stagger breathing] hum

B1. *pp* ³ A flame a - lone

B2. *pp* [stagger breathing] hum

B3. *pp* [stagger breathing] hum