



This Isn't Normal

Clarinet Trio

Kurt M. Mehlenbacher

**Transposed Score**  
Approx. Duration: 7 min. 45 sec.

for the Ambassador Trio: Jack Liang, Patrick Englert, and Jeremy Ruth

# This Isn't Normal

Kurt M. Mehlenbacher

## I. A Big Lie

Figuratively speaking: a hymn on an AM radio with feedback ( $\text{d} = 156$ )

bb clarinet  
senza vib.

Musical score for section I, measure 1. Three staves are shown: I (top), II (middle), and III (bottom). Staff I: bb clarinet, senza vib., dynamic pp sempre. Staff II: bb clarinet, senza vib., dynamic pp sempre. Staff III: bass clarinet, slap tongue, dynamic f. The music consists of sustained notes and short rhythmic patterns.

5

Musical score for section I, measures 5-6. Three staves are shown: I (top), II (middle), and III (bottom). Staff I: bb clarinet, dynamic pp. Staff II: bb clarinet, dynamic pp. Staff III: bass clarinet, dynamic fp, then dynamic f. The music features sustained notes and rhythmic patterns.

9

Musical score for section I, measures 9-10. Three staves are shown: I (top), II (middle), and III (bottom). Staff I: bb clarinet. Staff II: bb clarinet. Staff III: bass clarinet, dynamic fp, then dynamic f. The music includes sustained notes and rhythmic patterns.

This Isn't Normal – I. A Big Lie

13

I

II

III

senza vib.

con vib.

*pp*

*f*

17

I

II

III

*p*

senza vib.

*p*

*ppp*

*ppp*

*ppp*

con vib.

21

I

II

III

*p*

con vib.

*p*

*fp*

*fp*

This Isn't Normal – I. A Big Lie

25

I

II

III

*p*

*fp*

*ff*

*f>p*

*ff*

28 The lie

I

II

III

*mf*

*p*

*f=p*

*sffz*

*sffz*

*f*

*mf=p*

31

I

II

III

*pp*

*pp*

*f*

*p*

*f*

*mf*

*pp*

This Isn't Normal – I. A Big Lie

34

I      *pp*      *mf* 6 *pp*

II      6  
pp *mf*

III      *f*

37

I      *p* 3 3 *mf*

II      3 *p* *f*

III      *p* *mf*

40

I      6 eighth-note groups

II      *p* *f* *fp*

III      *f* *mf* 3

This Isn't Normal – I. A Big Lie

42

I

II

III

*ff*

*f*

*ff*

*mf*

*p*

45

I

II

III

*fp*

*ppp*

*fp*

*ppp*

*sub.f*

to eb clarinet

48

embrace the instability of the throat tones

I

II

III

*p*

*f>p*

*3+2*

*mf>p<f*

*3+2*

*3+2*

*p*

## This Isn't Normal – I. A Big Lie

52

I

II

III

*mf*

eb clarinet

*pp*

*p* cresc. poco a poco

cresc. poco a poco

3 3 3 3 ^ = f

Musical score for three staves (I, II, III) at measure 55:

- Staff I:** Treble clef, 4/4 time. Notes: B<sub>flat</sub>, C, D, E, F, G, A, B<sub>flat</sub>.
- Staff II:** Treble clef, 4/4 time. Notes: D, E, F, G, A, B<sub>flat</sub>, C, D.
- Staff III:** Bass clef, 4/4 time. Notes: 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3.

This Isn't Normal – I. A Big Lie

60

I  
II  
III

62

I  
II  
III

64

I  
II  
III

## Minimal chattering of discontent

66

senza vib.

***pp*** sempre

69

72

## This Isn't Normal – I. A Big Lie

78

I

II

III

*p* *mf* *pp*

*p*

*pp*

*f*

81

I

II      *p*

III      *pp*

This Isn't Normal – I. A Big Lie

84

I

II

III

*pp*      *f*      *ppp*

*ff*

3

*p*

to bb clarinet

86

I

II

III

*f*      *p*

*pp* *sempre*

*pp* *sempre*

90

I

II

III

bb clarinet

*p*      *f*

*pp*      *p*      *pp* *sempre*

This Isn't Normal – I. A Big Lie

94

I

II

III

flt.

*fp*

*pp* *mf*

*pp*

*fp*

*ff*

Collective hysteria, in an alternative fact sort of way

97

I

II

III

*ff* *fp*

*ff* *p*

*mf*

*ff*

*mf*

101

I

II

III

*ff*

*mf*

*ff*

*ff*

*p*

This Isn't Normal – I. A Big Lie

104

I: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 104-105 show eighth-note patterns with grace notes and a dynamic of *f*. Measure 106 has a dynamic of *p* followed by *ff*. Measure 107 starts with *fp*. Staff II: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 104-105 show eighth-note patterns. Measure 106 has a dynamic of *p* followed by *ff*. Measure 107 starts with *fp*. Staff III: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 104-105 show eighth-note patterns. Measure 106 has a dynamic of *p* followed by *ff*. Measure 107 starts with *fp*.

107

I: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 107-108 show eighth-note patterns with a dynamic of *fp*. Measure 109 has a dynamic of *ff*. Measure 110 has a dynamic of *f*. Staff II: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 107-108 show eighth-note patterns with a dynamic of *pp*. Measure 109 has a dynamic of *p*. Measure 110 has a dynamic of *f*. Staff III: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 107-108 show eighth-note patterns with a dynamic of *fp*. Measure 109 has a dynamic of *f*. Measure 110 has a dynamic of *f*.

110

I: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 110-111 show eighth-note patterns with a dynamic of *p*. Measure 112 has a dynamic of *ff*. Measure 113 has a dynamic of *mf*. Staff II: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 110-111 show eighth-note patterns. Measure 112 has a dynamic of *ff* followed by *mf*. Measure 113 has a dynamic of *mf*. Staff III: Treble clef, key signature of one flat. Measures 110-111 show eighth-note patterns. Measure 112 has a dynamic of *ff* followed by *mf*. Measure 113 has a dynamic of *mf*.

This Isn't Normal – I. A Big Lie

113

I  
II  
III

stagger breathe

117

to bass clarinet

attacca

II. Exhausted Resistance

Fatigued ( $\text{♩} = 66$ )

I  
II  
III

bass clarinet

p schmarmy

## This Isn't Normal – II. Exhausted Resistance

5

I

mf > pp

p 5

II

ppp pp

f

III

ppp pp

f

**a tempo**

I

II

III

9

*f*

*ppp*

*pp*

*pp*

13

The musical score consists of three staves (I, II, III) in common time. Staff I starts with a dynamic of *p*, followed by *pp*. Staff II starts with *ff*, followed by *pp*. Staff III starts with *ff*, followed by *pp*. The music features various performance markings such as grace notes, slurs, and fermatas.

This Isn't Normal – II. Exhausted Resistance

17

I                    II                    III

*pp*                *p*                *ppp*  
*-*                *pp*                *p*                *ppp*                *mf*  
*p*                *ppp*                *pp*                *p*                *ppp*

21

I                    II                    III

*mf*                *pp*                *3*  
*3*                *pp*  
*mf*                *pp*

25

poco rit. —————— Fading ( $\text{♩} = 52$ )

I                    II                    III

*f*                *pp*  
*f*                *p*  
*f*                *pp*                *p*                *mf*

This Isn't Normal – II. Exhausted Resistance

29

rit.

I  
II  
III

33 Comically apocalyptic ( $\text{♩} = 60$ )

I  
II  
III

$\text{ff}$  screechy  
 $\text{fp}$   
 $\text{ff}$

37

quasi-gliiss.

I  
II  
III

$>p$   
 $\text{pp}$   
 $\text{ff}$

## This Isn't Normal – II. Exhausted Resistance

## Seemingly speeding up

poco rit. ——————, molto rit.

This Isn't Normal – III. We Are Tired Now

**III. We Are Tired Now**

**Stumbling with surgical accuracy** ( $\text{♪} = \text{c. } 252; \text{♪} = \text{♪}$ )

$2 + 2 + 3$

$2 + 2 + 2 + 3$

Musical score for measures 1-2 of "We Are Tired Now". The score consists of three staves (I, II, III) in common time (indicated by a '7'). Staff I starts with a single note followed by rests. Staff II starts with eighth-note pairs (two pairs of eighth-note pairs). Staff III starts with a single note followed by rests. Measure 2 begins with a change in time signature to 9/8. Staff II continues with eighth-note pairs. Staff III has a dynamic instruction "mf metronomic" and a performance note "to bb clarinet". Measure 3 begins with a change in time signature back to 7/8.

3

Musical score for measure 3 of "We Are Tired Now". The score consists of three staves (I, II, III) in common time (7/8). Staff I has a rest. Staff II has eighth-note pairs. Staff III has a rest. Measure 4 begins with a change in time signature to 9/8. Staff II continues with eighth-note pairs. Staff III has a dynamic instruction "f" (fortissimo).

5

Musical score for measure 5 of "We Are Tired Now". The score consists of three staves (I, II, III) in common time (7/8). Staff I has a rest. Staff II has eighth-note pairs. Staff III has a dynamic instruction "mf" (mezzo-forte).

This Isn't Normal – III. We Are Tired Now

Musical score for three staves (I, II, III) showing measures 7, 9, and 11.

**Measure 7:** Staff I: Rest. Staff II: Rest. Staff III: **b♭ clarinet** plays a sixteenth-note pattern. Dynamic: *mf*.

**Measure 9:** Staff I: Rest. Staff II: Rest. Staff III: **b♭ clarinet** plays a sixteenth-note pattern. Dynamic: *mf*. Dynamic: **p** *lyrically*.

**Measure 11:** Staff I: Melodic line with dynamic *f*. Measure starts with a fermata over the first note. Staff II: Rest. Staff III: **b♭ clarinet** plays a sixteenth-note pattern. Dynamic: *mf*.

This Isn't Normal – III. We Are Tired Now

13

I

II

III

15

I

II

III

17

I

II

III

## This Isn't Normal – III. We Are Tired Now

Musical score for three staves (I, II, III) at measure 19:

- Staff I:** Treble clef, 8/8 time, dynamic *f*. Measures 19-20.
- Staff II:** Treble clef, 8/8 time, dynamic *fp*. Measures 19-20.
- Staff III:** Bass clef, 8/8 time, dynamic *mf*. Measures 19-20.

The score shows a transition from 8/8 time to 2/4 time at the end of the measure. Measure 19 ends with a fermata over the eighth note of the first measure of staff I. Measure 20 begins with a fermata over the eighth note of staff II, followed by a measure rest. The time signature changes to 2/4 for both staves in measure 20. Staff III continues with sixteenth-note patterns throughout the measure.

23

I

II

III

*to bass clarinet*

This Isn't Normal – III. We Are Tired Now

25

I      *p*      *mf*  
        *pp*      *f*

II     *p*      *mf*  
        *pp*      *f*

III    -      -

27

I      *p*      *mf*  
        *pp*      *ff*

II     *p*      *mf*  
        *pp*      *ff*

III    bass clarinet  
       *fp*      *pp*

Maybe a touch more debauchery ( same tempo )

29

I      2 + 2 + 2 + 3  
        *p*

II     sub. *p*      to e♭ clarinet

III    *p*

This Isn't Normal – III. We Are Tired Now

31

I

II

III

9  
8

p

7  
8

33

I

II

e♭ clarinet

III

p recklessly

9  
8

mf

7  
8

35

I

f

9  
8

p 3 f

7  
8

II

f

9  
8

p 3 f

7  
8

III

9  
8

7  
8

This Isn't Normal – III. We Are Tired Now

37

I

II

III

39

I

II

III

41

I

II

III

This Isn't Normal – III. We Are Tired Now

43

I

II

III

45

I

II

III

quasi-gliiss.

**Take to the streets!**  
3 + 3 + 3

47

I

II

III

This Isn't Normal – III. We Are Tired Now

49

I                    II                    III

51

I                    II                    III

53

I                    II                    III

This Isn't Normal – III. We Are Tired Now

55

I

II

III

sffz

dim. poco a poco - - -

sffz

dim. poco a poco - - -

ff

dim. poco a poco - - -

58

I

II

III

pp

61 Complacency takes hold

I

II

III

pp sempre

pp sempre

p

This Isn't Normal – III. We Are Tired Now

64

Musical score for page 64. The score consists of three staves (I, II, III) in treble clef. The music is in common time. The first measure shows staff I with eighth-note patterns and grace notes, followed by a dynamic marking *mf*. The second measure shows staff I with eighth-note patterns and grace notes, followed by a dynamic marking *pp*. Staff II follows a similar pattern. Staff III also has eighth-note patterns with grace notes.

68

And the crowd disperses...

Musical score for page 68. The score consists of three staves (I, II, III) in treble clef. The first measure shows staff I with eighth-note patterns and grace notes, followed by a dynamic marking *p* *fizzling*. The second measure shows staff II with eighth-note patterns and grace notes, followed by a dynamic marking *p* and *pp*, with a dynamic marking *p* *fizzling*. Staff III follows a similar pattern. Staff I has a dynamic marking *mf*.

71

Musical score for page 71. The score consists of three staves (I, II, III) in treble clef. The first measure shows staff I with eighth-note patterns and grace notes. The second measure shows staff II with eighth-note patterns and grace notes. Staff III has eighth-note patterns with grace notes and a dynamic marking *p*.