

# THE COWBOY LIFE

I. On the Trail II. Campfire III. Barn Dance

By Robert Kerr

## INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor Score	1
Violin I	8
Violin II	8
Viola	5
Cello	5
String Bass	5
Piano Accompaniment	1

## THE COWBOY LIFE

When we think of cowboys in relation to early America, we think of the vastness and wildness of the unsettled west—long distances between cities and one-horse towns, flat plains, cactus and tumbleweed, and the big sky stretching as far as the eye can see.

In the first movement, “On the Trail,” picture the cowboys moving west at a steady gallop over the open plains, down canyon ravines, and across mountains to get to their destination.

In the second movement, “Campfire,” think of a starry summer night on the plains sleeping in the open air near a blazing fire.

One might hear the far off cry of coyotes, and feel a cool breeze as it sweeps across the desert plain. In the third movement, “Barn Dance,” imagine that the cowboys have finally arrived at their destination, and now enjoy the safety and comfort of a western town.

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# The Cowboy Life

CONDUCTOR SCORE

Duration - 4:45

## I. On the Trail

(For Nancy Kredel)

Robert Kerr

**Andante** (♩ = 84)

Violins I & II, Viola, Cello, String Bass, Piano Accompaniment

Measures 1-5. Dynamics: *f*, *f-p*. Performance markings: *pizz.*, *mf*.

Detailed description: This block contains the first five measures of the piece. It features staves for Violins I and II, Viola, Cello, String Bass, and Piano Accompaniment. The tempo is marked 'Andante' with a quarter note equal to 84 beats per minute. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#). Measures 1-4 are mostly rests for the strings, with dynamics of *f*. In measure 5, the strings play a descending eighth-note pattern with dynamics of *f-p*. The piano accompaniment enters in measure 5 with a similar descending eighth-note pattern.

**Andante** (♩ = 84)

Vlins. I & II, Vla., Cello, Str. Bass, Piano Accompaniment

Measures 6-10. Dynamics: *f*, *f-p*. Performance markings: *V*.

Detailed description: This block contains measures 6 through 10. The string parts (Violins I & II, Viola, Cello, and String Bass) play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, with dynamics of *f*. The piano accompaniment continues with a similar pattern, dynamics of *f-p*. Measure 6 includes a 'V' marking above the first violin staff. The key signature remains two sharps.

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11 12 13 14 15

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Piano Accomp.

16 17 18 19 20

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Piano Accomp.

21 22 23 24 25

Vlns. I *f*

Vlns. II *f*

Vla. *f*

Cello *f*

Str. Bass *f*

Piano Accomp. *f*

26 27 28 29 30

Vlns. I *f*

Vlns. II *f*

Vla. *f*

Cello *f*

Str. Bass *f*

Piano Accomp. *f*



# II. Campfire

(For Michelle Martin)

Tranquillo (♩ = 96)

Violins I  
Violins II  
Viola  
Cello  
String Bass  
Piano Accompaniment

Vlins. I  
Vlins. II  
Vla.  
Cello  
Str. Bass  
Piano Accomp.

13 14 15 16 17 18

Vlns. I *mf* *cresc.*

Vlns. II *p* *cresc.*

Vla. *cresc.*

Cello *cresc.*

Str. Bass *cresc.*

Piano Accomp. *mf* *cresc.*

19 20 21 22 23 24

Vlns. I *f*

Vlns. II *f*

Vla. *f*

Cello *f*

Str. Bass *f*

Piano Accomp. *f*

25 26 27 28 29 4 30

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Piano Accomp.

*dim.*

*dim.*

*dim.*

*dim.*

*dim.*

Low 1

V x2 x4 x1

1/2 pos.

*p*

*p*

*p*

*p*

*p*

*p*

29

31 32 33 34 35 36 ,

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Piano Accomp.

V

I pos.  
2

37 38 39 40 41 42

Vlns. I *pp*

Vlns. II *pp*

Vla. *pp*

Cello *pp*

Str. Bass *pp*

Piano Accomp. *pp*

43 44 45 46 47 48

Vlns. I *ppp* *rit.*

Vlns. II *ppp* *rit.*

Vla. *ppp* *rit.*

Cello *ppp* *rit.*

Str. Bass *ppp* *rit.*

Piano Accomp. *ppp* *rit.*

### III. Barn Dance

**Allegro** (♩ = 144)

Violins I  
Violins II  
Viola  
Cello  
String Bass

Piano Accompaniment

This block contains the first six measures of the 'Barn Dance' section. The tempo is marked 'Allegro' with a quarter note equal to 144 beats per minute. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The Violins I part begins in measure 5 with a melody starting on G4, marked *mf*. The Cello part has a bass line with a 'x4' marking above measure 3. The Piano Accompaniment part has a similar bass line. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid on the score.

7 8 9 10 11 12

Vlns. I  
Vlns. II  
Vla.  
Cello  
Str. Bass

Piano Accomp.

This block contains measures 7 through 12 of the 'Barn Dance' section. The Violins I part continues the melody from measure 5, with a 'V' marking above measure 10. The Cello part has a 'V' marking above measure 10. The Piano Accompaniment part continues with a steady bass line. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid on the score.



25 26 27 28 29 30

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Piano Accomp.

*pp*

*pp*

*pizz.*

*pp*

*pp*

31 32 33 34 35 36

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Piano Accomp.

*pp*

*pp*

*pp*



48 49 50 4 0 51 52

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Piano Accomp.

53 54 55 56 57 58

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Piano Accomp.

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