



Creepers in the Castle

Escape!

RALPH FORD (ASCAP)

INSTRUMENTATION

1 Conductor	5 String Bass
8 1st Violin	1 Piano Accompaniment (Optional)
8 2nd Violin	2 Percussion (Suspended Cymbal, Shaker)
5 3rd Violin (Viola T.C.)	
5 Viola	
5 Cello	

PROGRAM NOTES

*"Within this Castle, the dark of night,
Brings forth the creepers to give us fright;
And, if we are to survive this quest,
Our torches must be their brightest best.
For if we do not escape the Creeper,
We are surely destined to meet the Reaper!"*

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

Composed in the key of D minor, each section has melodic opportunity in this piece. The trills for violin I (in measures 9, 11, 13, 41, 42, and 45) are scalar and should be performed to the scale degree one step above the written pitch (D trill to E and F trill to G). The rhythm that first appears in measure 9 (quarter tied to eighth, followed by eighth note and half note) is also written as a dotted quarter note to eighth note in measure 13 as a comparison for teaching/reinforcing how a note with a dot is to be counted and interpreted. Auxiliary percussion consists of a suspended cymbal (with soft mallets) and a shaker (preferably a rhythm "egg" or other high-pitched, light shaker). The percussion parts require two players. At the *Grand Pause* ("G.P.") in measure 62, the musicians may choose to make haunted castle sounds vocally, or on the instruments, with the percussion swelling up from underneath the sounds.

It is my hope that you, your student musicians, and your audiences enjoy *Creepers in the Castle*. Good luck!

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

All Belwin string parts have been carefully bowed and fingered appropriately by level. The Yellow Very Beginning series includes many bowings as well as reminder fingerings for first-time readers. The Red Beginning series includes frequent bowings to assist younger players. Fingerings for altered pitches are often marked. The Green Intermediate series includes appropriately placed bowings for middle-level students. Fingerings and positions are marked for notes beyond first position. The Blue Concert series includes bowings appropriate for the experienced high school player. Fingerings and position markings are indicated for difficult passages.

Belwin/Pop String Editor

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CONDUCTOR SCORE

Duration - 2:00

Mysteriously with drive (♩ = 132)

Violins

Viola
(Violin III)

Cello

String Bass

Piano
Accompaniment
(Optional)

Percussion
(Suspended Cymbal, Shaker)

Musical score for measures 1-4. The score includes staves for Violins I and II, Viola (Violin III), Cello, String Bass, Piano Accompaniment (Optional), and Percussion (Shaker). The tempo is marked 'Mysteriously with drive' with a quarter note equal to 132 beats per minute. The dynamic is marked *mf*. The percussion part includes a suspended cymbal and a shaker.

Vlns.

Vla.
(Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Pno.
Accomp.
(Opt.)

Perc.

Musical score for measures 5-9. The score includes staves for Violins I and II, Viola (Violin III), Cello, String Bass, Piano Accompaniment (Optional), and Percussion (Suspended Cymbal). The dynamic is marked *f*. The percussion part includes a suspended cymbal.

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Pno. Accomp. (Opt.)

Perc.

mp *f* *mp* *f* *mp*

10 11 12 13 14

p *f* *p* *f*

Lo 3

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Pno. Accomp. (Opt.)

Perc.

f *fp* *mf* *p* *mf*

f *fp* *mf* *p* *mf*

f *fp* *mf* *p* *mf*

f *fp* *mf* *p* *mf*

f *fp* *mf* *p* *mf*

p *mf* *p*

15 16 17 18 19 20

(V)

Vlns. I *f* *p* *mf*

Vlns. II *f* *p* *mf*

Vla. (Vln. III) *f* *p* *mf*

Cello *f* *p* *mf*

Str. Bass *f* *p* *mf*

Pno. Accomp. (Opt.) *f* *p* *mf*

Perc. *mf*

21 22 23 24 25

Vlns. I *f* *mp* *fp*

Vlns. II *f* *mp* *f* *p*

Vla. (Vln. III) *f* *mp* *f*

Cello *f* *mp* *f*

Str. Bass *f* *mp* *f*

Pno. Accomp. (Opt.) *f* *mp* *fp* *p*

Perc. *p* *mf*

26 27 28 29 30

33

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Pno. Accomp. (Opt.)

Perc.

31 32 33 34 35

36 37 38 39 40

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Pno. Accomp. (Opt.)

Perc.

41 *ff* (V) *p sub.* *mp*

Vlns. I *f* *mp* *p sub.* *mp*

Vlns. II *f* *mp* *p sub.* *mp*

Vla. (Vln. III) *f* *mp* *p sub.* *mp*

Cello *f* *mp* *mp*

Str. Bass *f* *mp*

Pno. Accomp. (Opt.) *f* *p sub.* *mp*

Perc. *p*

41 42 43 44 *p*

Vlns. I *f* *fp* (V)

Vlns. II *f* *fp* (V)

Vla. (Vln. III) *f* *fp* (V)

Cello *f* *fp* *mf*

Str. Bass *f* *fp* *mf*

Pno. Accomp. (Opt.) *f* *fp* *mf*

Perc. *f* *p* *f* *p* *f*

45 46 47 48

49

Vlns. I *f* *mp* V V

Vlns. II *f* *mp* V V

Vla. (Vln. III) *f* *mp* V V

Cello *f* *p* *mp* V V

Str. Bass *f* *p* *mp* V V

Pno. Accomp. (Opt.) *f* *p*

Perc. *p* *mp*

49 50 51 52

53

Vlns. I *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

Vlns. II *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

Vla. (Vln. III) *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

Cello *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

Str. Bass *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

Pno. Accomp. (Opt.) *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *f*

Perc. *mf* *f*

53 54 55 56 57

Vlns.
I
II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Pno. Accomp. (Opt.)

Perc.

mf *f* *ff*

3 Hi 3
o Lo 1

58 59 60 61

Vlns.
I
II

Vla. (Vln. III)

Cello

Str. Bass

Pno. Accomp. (Opt.)

Perc.

G.P.*

f *ff*

62 63 64 65 66

*Ad. lib optional haunted sounds by playing the bow between the bridge and tailpiece.