

THE MONSTER NAMED STRETCH

By Anthony Granata

INSTRUMENTATION

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

Written in the eerie key of F# natural minor— attractive to young students—this sound defines our scary monster called “Stretch.” Each section gets important melodic and counter melodic material. With two separate sections (slow and fast), a legato middle section, a jaunty pizzicato section, and a forceful coda, every section will be challenged.

PROGRAM NOTES

It's every child's fear—the monster beneath the bed. This one calls itself “Stretch,” a sharp and gangly creature that slowly awakens from its slumber and lunges headfirst into an adventurous rampage. The piece begins slowly and mysteriously, introducing the musicians to Stretch's theme, until officially taking off on an exciting and terrifying escapade. Will your students overcome the monster that is Stretch once and for all?



NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

Written for the sole purpose of teaching and reinforcing the key signature of A major (F# natural minor) in a programmatic fashion, this piece will help your violins and violas master those high third fingers; your cellos to use 2nd position, extensions, and low ones; and will have your basses moving in and out of 3rd, 2nd, 1st, and $\frac{1}{2}$ positions, helping them utilize and gain confidence in keys with many sharps. The simple rhythm patterns used throughout make this more accessible in a key that utilizes three sharps. Play them fast, loud, and into the string.

This programmatic piece helps students visualize the work's titular monster character, "Stretch," engaging their creative self and immersing them in the work.

The Monster Named Stretch

CONDUCTOR SCORE
Duration - 2:40

By Anthony Granata

Adagio misterioso (♩ = c. 70)

Violins
I
II

Viola

Cello

String Bass

1 2 3 4

Vlms.
I
II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

5 6 7 8

Musical score for measures 9-11. The score includes staves for Vlns. I, Vlns. II, Vla., Cello, and Str. Bass. The key signature has three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. The music starts at measure 9 with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. A *rit.* (ritardando) marking appears above measure 11. Various fingering and articulation markings are present, including slurs, accents, and fingerings like 'x2', 'x1', 'x4', 'x1', 'x2', and '4'. A large red watermark 'Preview Only Requires Purchase' is overlaid on the score.

Musical score for measures 12-15. The score includes staves for Vlns. I, Vlns. II, Vla., Cello, and Str. Bass. The key signature has three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. Measure 12 is marked with a boxed '12' and the tempo 'Allegro' with a quarter note equal to approximately 140 (♩ = c. 140). The dynamic is *p cresc.* (piano crescendo). Measures 13 and 14 continue with the *p cresc.* dynamic. Measure 15 features a forte (*f*) dynamic and includes markings for *arco* (arco) and *pizz.* (pizzicato). Fingerings are indicated as -4, 1, -2, 1. A large red watermark 'Preview Only Requires Purchase' is overlaid on the score.

16

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

ff

4

x2

4

x1

16 17 18 19

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

4

x4

2

1

20 21 22 23

24

Vlns. I *p* V

Vlns. II *p* V

Vla. *pizz.* *p* 3

Cello *mf* V

Str. Bass *pizz.* *p*

24 25 26 27

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello V -4 -3 V

Str. Bass

28 29 30 31

32 *div.*

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

f *f* *f* *f* *f*

arco arco

4 4 3

32 33 34 35

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

V V V V V

4 4 4

x2 4 x1

36 37 38 39

40

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

ff

40 41 42 43

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

44 45 46 47

48

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

pizz.

p

48 49 50 51

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

4

x4 2 x1 x1

52 53 54 55 56

arco 59

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

ff arco

ff arco

ff arco

ff arco

ff

57 58 59 60

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

61 62 63 64

65

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

p sub. cresc.

ff

4

1 3

65 66 67 68

69

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

cresc.

fff

4

69 70 71 72 73

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