

THREE AESOP FABLES

for S.A.T.B. voices and piano*

1. The Lion and the Mouse

“An act of kindness is never wasted.”

Words and Music by
CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

With spirit ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 76$)

PIANO

4

8

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

mf

A lit tle bit - ty ti - ny mouse was

PERFORMANCE NOTES:

Aesop's Fables is a collection of short stories, attributed to the ancient Greek storyteller Aesop, that use animals to teach moral lessons. Invite a narrator (or the entire choir) to read the fable's moral aloud before each movement.

* Also available for S.A.B. (52190) and 2-part (52191).

PianoTrax accompaniment available (A-00016626). Visit alfred.com for digital scores and audio.

11

scur-ry-ing a-long one day. When he came a-cross a

14

might-y li-on, he did-n't run a-way. The

17

hun-gry li-on snatched the mouse and was a-bout to make his

plate full. But the clev - er mouse pled, "Please let me down,

and I will be ev - er grate - ful."

rit. *mp* **28** Slower (♩ = ca. 60)
legato

With ten - der heart, the

mp

rit. *mp* *legato* Slower (♩ = ca. 60)

29

li - on gave in and let the mouse run free. Be -

32 *rit. poco a poco*

fore he left, the mouse spoke out, I will re-pay you, you'll

rit. poco a poco

35 **Tempo I** (♩ = ca. 76)

see."

Tempo I (♩ = ca. 76)

mf

39

mf 40

The lit - tle bit - ty ti - ny mouse was

mf

lightly

42

scur-ry - ing a - long the next day. He found the li - on

tr

45

trapped in a net, strug - gling to get a - way! The

rit.

rit.

48 Dramatically (♩ = ca. 58)

li - on was scared and shak - en for he could not end his

Dramatically (♩ = ca. 58)

51 strife. The mouse re mem - bered the voy he made and

54 *rit.* **f** 56 Grandly (♩ = ca. 52)

helped him save his life. By gnaw-ing a-way at

rit. **f** Grandly (♩ = ca. 52)

57

ev - 'ry knot, he freed the li - on from his plight. The

60

rit.

Tempo I (♩ = ca. 76)

mouse spoke thus be - fore he did de - part, "Was not

rit.

Tempo I (♩ = ca. 76)

63

right?"

2. The Dog and His Reflection

“It is very foolish to be greedy.”

Words and Music by
CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

Lilting (♩ = ca. 92)

SOPRANO
ALTO

mf

A

TENOR
BASS

Lilting (♩ = ca. 92)

PIANO

5

mf

stopped up - on a wood - en bridge and

saw _____ a cu - ri - ous sight: *mp*
An - *mp*

oth - er dog's face in the wa - ter, _____ not

mp

25 *cresc.*

know - ing it was he. *cresc.* But

cresc.

29 *mf*

this dog had _____ a lot more food! How

mf

33

could this ev - er be? He

mf



37

f
barked and yapped to scare his foe, but

f

41

sad - ly let go of his meal. It

45

fell in the stream, his wa - ter - y friend. A

49 *decresc.*

day much less than i - deal.

decresc.

decresc.

53 *mp* *decresc.*

Oo.

mp *decresc.*

mp *decresc.*

56 *poco rit.* *p*

p

poco rit. *p*

3. The Crow and the Pitcher

“Necessity is the mother of invention.”

Words and Music by
CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

Expressively (♩ = ca. 88)

SOPRANO ALTO

TENOR BASS

PIANO

p

8^{va}

p (opt. a cappella through m. 4)

4

share _____ and a crow who was

(play) *p*

7

full of thirst. _____ His

mp

mp *decresc.*

10

beak too short to drink from its pool, so he had to make a

mp

mp

13

rit.

Mysteriously ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 100$)

p

plan first. He

p

Mysteriously ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 100$)

rit. decresc. p

17

dropped a peb-ble in, and up the wa-ter rose clo-ser to the brim. He

21

cresc.

dropped an-oth - er, and an - oth - er, and an -

cresc.

legato *cresc.*

25 *rit.* *mf* *f*

oth - er, and an - oth - er one down 'til he could drink the wa - ter so

mf *f*

27 Grandly (♩ = ca. 84)

rit. *mf* *f*

f

Grandly (♩ = ca. 84)

28 *molto rit.* *ff*

eas - i - ly ... all for him!

ff

molto rit. *ff*

ff

