

THREE AESOP FABLES

for S.A.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

The piano introduction consists of two staves. The right hand starts with a quarter note G4, followed by eighth notes A4-B4, quarter notes C5-B4, quarter notes A4-G4, and quarter notes F4-E4. The left hand starts with a quarter rest, followed by quarter notes G3-F3, quarter notes E3-D3, quarter notes C3-B2, and quarter notes A2-G2. The dynamic marking is *mf*.

4

The piano accompaniment for measures 4-7 continues the melodic and harmonic patterns established in the introduction. The right hand features a series of eighth notes and quarter notes, while the left hand provides a steady bass line with quarter notes.

8

SOPRANO

ALTO

BARITONE

mf

A lit tle bit - ty ti - ny mouse was

The vocal entry begins at measure 8. The Soprano part starts with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G4. The Alto part starts with a quarter note G4. The Baritone part starts with a quarter note G3. The piano accompaniment continues with the same pattern as in the previous section.

The piano accompaniment for measures 8-11 continues the accompaniment for the vocal entry. The right hand features a series of quarter notes and half notes, while the left hand provides a steady bass line with quarter notes.

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.T.B. (52189) 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 - ger - y li - on snatched the mouse and was a - bout to make his

plate full. But the clever mouse pled, "Please let me down,

and I will be ever 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 *rit.*

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

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 vow he made and

54

rit.

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

56 Grandly (♩ = ca. 52)

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

Tempo I (♩ = ca. 76)

rit.

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

BARITONE

PIANO

mf

A

Lilting (♩. = ca. 92)

mf

5

dog was proud - ly head - ing home with some

9

food with - in his bite.

He
mf

stopped up - on a wood - en bridge and

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

oth - er logs 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

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

Oo.

mp

decresc.

mp

decresc.

56

poco rit.

p

poco rit.

p

3. The Crow and the Pitcher

“Necessity is the mother of invention.”

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CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

Expressively (♩ = ca. 88)

SOPRANO
ALTO

BARITONE

PIANO

p

p

Expressively (♩ = ca. 88)

p (opt. a cappella through m. 4)

8^{va}

A ves - sel with lit - tle wa - ter to

4

share

and a crow who was

(play) *p*

7

mp

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 ($\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 100$)

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.

27 Grandly (♩ = ca. 64)

25 *rit.* *mf*

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

mf *f*

Grandly (♩ = ca. 84)

rit. *mf* *f*

28

molto rit. *ff*

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

ff

molto rit. *ff*

8vb