

Fables from Aesop

for violin and alto sax

The performers read from score. Two copies are provided so that the players may practice individually. During performance, if the performers position the scores on 2 music stands side by side, page turns will be facilitated.

1. The Dog Who Chased A Lion

From a safe vantage point a fox watched with astonishment as a hunting dog surprised, and then, began chasing a lion. It was not long before the lion's shock turned to reason. He abruptly halted, faced his pursuer, and let out a resounding roar. The frightened dog yelped and quickly retreated. The fox later commented to the dog, "You sorry creature, you boldly chase a lion, yet flee as a coward from the mere sound of his voice."

Howard J. Buss (ASCAP)

Transposed Score

The musical score is written for Violin and Eb Alto Sax. It begins with a tempo marking of quarter note = 96. The key signature has one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into four systems, each with two staves. The first system starts with a dynamic marking of *f*. The second system includes a key signature change to two flats (Bb, Eb) and a time signature change to 4/2. The third system starts with a measure rest marked '7' and includes a measure rest marked '5'. The fourth system starts with a measure rest marked '10' and includes measure rests marked '3' and '6'. The score concludes with a measure rest marked '(4)'.

II. The Astronomer

One evening, in order to get a better view of a celestial formation, an astronomer ventured away from his familiar neighborhood. With his eyes focused on the heavens he wandered into the countryside and soon tripped and fell into a well. His rescuer, alerted by his cries of distress, thought, "With all of your knowledge of the universe, you can't even find your way on earth."

(Transposed Score) $\text{♩} = 96$ *mysterioso*
sul pont.

Violin

Eb Alto Sax

mf *p* *maestoso* 3

mp *p* *mp*

mp

3

p *sul D* 6

pp

III. The Camel Who Wanted Horns

A camel studied a powerful bull and marvelled at his majestic horns. She thought, "If only I had such horns, I would be the most magnificent creature alive." She obsessed over the matter and decided to petition Zeus for a pair. Zeus was furious with the camel's request, it was obvious that she had little appreciation for the remarkable strength, stamina, and other assets he had bestowed upon her. Not only did he deny her horns, he also decided to reduce the size of her ears.

(Transposed Score)

♩ = 60
playfully

Violin

mf

♩ = 60
playfully

E♭ Alto Sax

mf

8

12

16

IV. The Crow and the Pitcher

The drought was severe. A dehydrated crow approached a pitcher of water on a table in a garden. He hopped onto the rim and stretched as far as possible; however, he could not reach the water. When he attempted to topple the pitcher over to spill its contents, he discovered it was too heavy to budge. The crow thought, "If I do not drink water soon I will surely die." An idea came to him. He dropped a pebble into the pitcher and watched keenly as the water level rose ever so slightly. He dropped another, and another, and before long the water reached the top of the pitcher and he drank his fill.

(Transposed Score)

Violin *f* $\text{♩} = 90$

E♭ Alto Sax *f*

p *somber*

p *somber*

(b)

increasingly optimistic *mp* *poco accel.*

increasingly optimistic *mp* *poco accel.*

(c)

V. The Rabbits and the Frogs

The rabbits had a conference at which they concluded they were hopeless cowards. They resolved to end their disgrace permanently by jumping, as a group, off of a cliff into a pond. The rabbits hurried towards the cliff, darting to and fro, hopping helter-skelter through the brambles, over and around fallen logs, rocks, and gullies. Onward they charged with each rabbit feeling a heightened sense of purpose and an unfamiliar, yet somewhat invigorating feeling - could it be courage? As the lead rabbit was about to make his suicidal leap he noticed that a group of frogs at the water's edge became startled by the sound of the approaching rabbits. The frogs promptly plunged into the pond. The leader turned about, faced his comrades and exclaimed, "Stop, we need not jump. Didn't you see? Those animals are more cowardly than we!"

(Transposed Score) $\text{♩} = 96$

Violin

Eb Alto Sax

8

11

14

ff *mp* *ff* *p* *mf* *f*

ff *mp* *ff* *mf* *f*

mf *ff* *mp* *ff* *mp* *ff*

ff *ffmp* *f*

ff *ffmp* *f*

ff *ffmp* *f*

ff *ffmp* *f*