

Gwyneth Walker

Prayers from the Ark

for SATB Soli and String Quartet

17 *arco*

20 *rit. Slowly, emphatically*

f *v* *v* *p* *3*

(Noah) cov - en - ant. —

24 *poco accel.* *Slightly faster* *rit.*

mf *p*

28 *Slowly* *rit.*

(Noah) A - - - men. —

Play *v* *v* *v*

short pause

2. The Prayer of the Dog

At a frisky tempo ♩ = 100
as a dog wagging his tail

rit.
patting the dog on his head

5 ♩ = 72 *recitativo style*

10 *More quickly* *rit.*
(frisky "tail-wagging" motive)

a tempo (♩ = 72)

Slightly faster ♩ = 88

Free measure

(Dog)

19

They really believe they make me hap - py I take kicks too when they come my way.

mf *f*

Original tempo (♩ = 72)

None of this mat - ters.

20

mf *f*

Faster ♩ = 100

["wagging tail" motive]

25

mf *p*

29

A - men. A - men. A - men.

mp *p* *(p)*

lovingly pat instrument final pat short pause

Interlude 1

a tempo ♩ = 100
2

mf

6

p *attacca*

3. The Prayer of the Little Bird

Lightly ♩ = 100
as a small bird hopping on the ground

(p)

wings flapping

mp *poco rit.*

Slightly slower
at a comfortable recitative tempo

7

p

Play

gentle, light tremolo, at the tip

(Bird) pray by my-self ver-y well,

With motion ♩ = 72

Slower
rit. more reflectively rit. ord.

11

mf *f*

16 $\text{♩} = 72$ *rit.*

p pp barely audible mf

21 **Original tempo** ($\text{♩} = 100$)

f p

24 *wings flapping* *rit.* [BIRD holds up worm] *knock knuckle on instrument*

p *short pause*

Interlude 2

a tempo $\text{♩} = 100$

(p)

6 **Slowly** (Noah)

(p)

The days are long, Lord. All this wa - ter makes my heart sink.

9 **Slightly faster** *rit.* *slow tremolo* "wringing out robe" motive

mf mp p

4. The Prayer of the Little Ducks

Bouncy tempo ♩ = 120*suitable for jumping in puddles**(all upbows) as ducks dancing*

mf

simile

5

9

12

p *mf*

16

20

p *f*

24

poco rit.

27

Slightly slower

mf

(Duck 1)

oth - er lus - cious things to eat.

p *Play*

31

f

accel.

a tempo (♩ = 120)

Freely, slower
recitative style

34 *rit.* (Duck 2) (Duck 1)

Pro - tect all folk who quack and

mf

37 *accel.*

ev - 'ry - one who knows how to swim.

p *f*

40 *a tempo* (♩ = 120)

p

43 *f* *rit.* [DUCKS jump in puddle] *snap pizz.*

f *rit.*

47 *a tempo* (♩ = 120) *arco* *mf* *short pause*

mf *short pause*

Prayers from the Ark – Violin 1
5. The Prayer of the Donkey

Tempo *ad lib.*

*high gliss. *ad lib.* [HEE]

many glissandi *ad lib.*

5 (Donkey 2)

9

14

17

(Donkey 1)

*Violins play a high, quick, upward glissando, *ad lib.*, which is answered by Viola and Cello low, quick, downward glissando *ad lib.* to simulate the “hee-haw” sounds of a donkey

20

cause I can ne - ver say what I m - m - m - mean and they make fun of me. —

pizz.
p

23 *arco*

f impassioned

25 (Donkey 1)

and make them give me time to pick it. And, Lord, one day let me find a - gain my lit - tle

mf

29 *rit.* **Quickly**

broth - er of the Christ - mas crib.

p *p* *f*

A bit faster (like the opening)
"Hee-Haw" sounds (see m. 1)

32 A - men. *rit.*

(*f*) *short pause*

6. The Prayer of the Butterfly

Lightly $\text{♩} = 72$
as a butterfly in flight

5

(Vlc.)

mf

con sord.

(1)

(2)

9 [Butterfly enters] (3)

p

(4)

(5)

12

(6)

(7)

(8)

15 *poco rit.* (Butterfly)

Slightly slower

Slower

Your world is beau - ti - ful! This scent of ros - es...

f

p

20 *a tempo* ($\text{♩} = 72$)

p

pizz.

23 *a tempo*

A drop of dew rolls to spar - kle in a lil - y's heart... I have to go...

arco, gentle tremolo, at the tip

p

27

Where? I do not know!

arco, ord.

p \triangleleft *mf* *p* \triangleleft *mf*

34

p \triangleleft *mf* (*mf*) *rit.*

39 *Free measure*

Where was I? Oh yes! Lord, I had something to tell you:

pizz.

p

40 *a tempo* (♩ = 72)

(Vlc.) *arco*

p 6 6 6 6

44 *rit.*

via sord.

pp short pause

Prayers from the Ark – Violin 1
7. The Prayer of the Cat

A graceful tempo ♩. = 72

(Vlc. numerous, random glissandi
as a "cat exploring")

senza sord. rolled pizz.

mf

4 *arco*

8

12 *p* *mf*

17 *rit.* *recitative style*

It is not, exactly, that I have something to ask of You!

p

19

No – I ask nothing of a - ny - one – but, if You have by some chance, in some ce - les - tial

pizz.

mf

(20)

barn, a little white mouse, or a saucer of milk,

arco

pp barely audible

21 *rit.*

I know someone who would rel - ish them, rel - ish them, rel - ish them. ___

25 **Original tempo** ♩. = 72

mf *pizz.* *arco* *gentle trem. gliss.* *p*

29

Would - n't You like some - day ___ to put a curse on the whole race of dogs? ___

sfp *determined* *[cut off]* *roughly, as noisy barking* *p < f*

30

(Cat) If so, I should say, *(f)* *p < ff*

Interlude 3

(♩. = 72)

mf *simile*

5

rit. *random ascending glissandi* *p* *short pause*

8. The Prayer of the Elephant

Lumbering tempo $\text{♩} = 60$

[repeat as long as necessary for Alto's costume change]

(Vlc.)

Lumbering tempo $\text{♩} = 60$

[repeat the previous 2 measures as long as needed for the Elephant to come to center stage.]

Play

f *mf*

6

10

pizz., lightly *arco* *pizz., lightly*

15

Slower, more freely great self, AH- and (*pizz.*)

(Bar.)

19

knock knuckle on body of instrument

rit. *a tempo* ($\text{♩} = 60$)

not my fault big — feet.

f

arco

24

Slower, more freely


p

30 *rit.* **thumb vs. fingers tremolo on body of instrument*  **Slower** *pizz.*

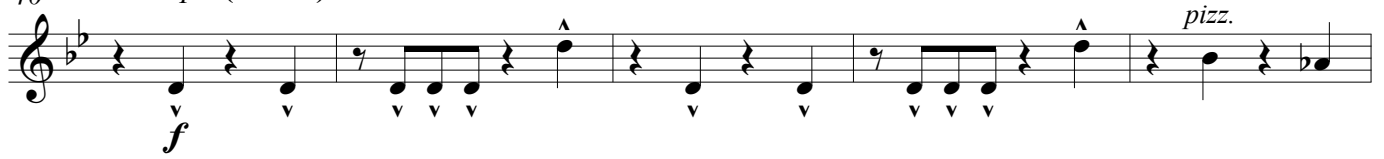


(Tenor) poise. *f* Give me such phil - o - soph - ic thoughts *mf*


35 ev - 'ry - where I *arco* *mf* *f* *pizz.* things.



40 *a tempo* (♩ = 60) *f* *pizz.*



45 *arco* *pizz.* *arco* *short high gliss.* *pizz.* *arco* *pizz.* *arco*



(time)

*To suggest the precariousness of the situation.

Prayers from the Ark – Violin 1

Raise bow in air as Elephant kicks and hold pose.

49 *rit.* (Women) A - men, A - men *a tempo* *arco* *rit.* *(f)*

$\text{♩} = 60$ or slightly faster
as a bird in flight

con sord. (repeat figure as long as necessary for preparation of next scene)

9. The Prayer of the Dove

Same tempo ($\text{♩} = 60$) or slightly faster
with excitement of anticipation

(p)

10 *rolled pizz.* *mf* *arco* *gentle gliss.* *p*

(Alto) sign of Your

17 (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7)

24 *rit.* *Slower* *pizz.* *via sord.* *p* 5 (Vln. 2)

33 *arco, senza sord.* *mf* 6 6

36 6 6 6 *f*

40 **Slightly slower** *pizz.* *rolled pizz.* **Slower** *arco*

p *(p)* *f*

45 *rit.* Grace im - mac - u - late. *Play* [Each singer sings "Amen" and exits]

A - men. A - men. A - men.

short pause

10. Noah and the Dove an epilogue

Slowly $\text{♩} = 56$

(Noah cue: bailing out the Ark sounds, *do not play*)

[tap] [empty bucket] (2) (3) (4) *Play (join taps)* *pizz.* (2)

pp almost inaudible
(to suggest weariness)

7 (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8)

13 (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) *poco rit.* *arco*

19 **Slightly slower** *a tempo* ($\text{♩} = 56$) *as a dove in flight*

mf "Here is Your dove..."

26 *rit. to end* 2 "Here is Your dove..." *p* *(p)* *pp*

finger trem. on body of instrument, fading as a dove flying away.

Gwyneth Walker

Prayers from the Ark

for SATB Soli and String Quartet

2 Violin 2

Prayers from the Ark

for SATB Soli and String Quartet

Carmen Bernos de Gasztold
Rumer Godden, trans.

Gwyneth Walker

Introduction (animal sounds)

[Singers off stage]

A raucous "symphony" of animal noises (vocal sounds) is produced by the singers (animals) *ad libitum*.... These sounds start before the strings begin to play, and continue during the playing.

enter *ad lib.*
(not synchronized with Vln. 1)
raucous sounds, *ad lib.* continue in alternating octaves *ad lib.*

f *sf* *ff*

accel.

(Vln. 1)

1. Noah's Prayer

Slowly, dramatically
as a recitative

f *p*

5 *f* *rit.* *pizz.* *a tempo* ♩ = 66 *rit.* *Slowly*

9 (Noah) When will the ground cease to rock un-der my feet? *Play arco*

p *f*

12 *p*

Selections from *Prayers from the Ark* are used with permission of Curtis Brown Group Ltd.

Prayers from the Ark – Violin 2

2. The Prayer of the Dog

At a frisky tempo ♩ = 100
as a dog wagging his tail

rit.
patting the dog on his head

5 ♩ = 72 *recitativo style*

a tempo (♩ = 72)

(Dog)
They call me "Good dog! Nice dog!" Words...

Slightly faster ♩ = 88

I take their pats and the old bones they throw me _____ and I seem pleased. _____

Free measure

19 (Dog) *f*

They really believe they make me hap - py I take kicks too when they come my way.

mf *f*

Original tempo (♩ = 72)

20 (Dog) None of this mat - ters. *Play*

mf *f*

Faster ♩ = 100

25 ["wagging tail" motive] *rit.*

mf *p*

♩ = 72

29 *Faster* *rit.*

A - - - men. A - men. A - men.

mp *p* *(p)*

lovingly pat instrument *final pat*

short pause

Interlude 1

a tempo ♩ = 100

2

mf

6

p

attacca

3. The Prayer of the Little Bird

Lightly ♩ = 100
as a small bird hopping on the ground

wings flapping

(p)

4

poco rit.

mp

Slightly slower
at a comfortable recitative tempo

With motion ♩ = 72
gentle, light tremolo, at the tip

7

p

(Bird) pray by my - self ver - y well,

11

rit. **Slower** *more reflectively* *ord.* *rit.*

mf

f

16 $\text{♩} = 72$ *rit.*

p *pp* barely audible *mf*

20 **Original tempo** ($\text{♩} = 100$)

f *p*

24 *wings flapping* *rit.* *[BIRD holds up worm]*
knock knuckle on instrument

p
short pause

Interlude 2

a tempo $\text{♩} = 100$

(p)

6 **Slowly** (Noah)

The days are long, Lord. All this wa - ter makes my heart sink.

9 **Slightly faster** *rit.*

mf *p*

4. The Prayer of the Little Ducks

Bouncy tempo ♩ = 120
suitable for jumping in puddles

8 *mf* *simile*

5

9 *p*

13 *mf*

17

21 *p* *f*

25 *poco rit.* *Slightly slower* *mf*

29 (Vln. 1) *f* *accel.*

33 *a tempo* (♩ = 120) *rit.* **Freely, slower**
recitative style

(Duck 2) (Duck 1)

Pro - tect all folk who quack and

mf

37 *accel.*

ev - 'ry - one who knows how to swim.

p *f*

40 *a tempo* (♩ = 120)

p *p* *f*

44 *rit.* *snap pizz.*

[DUCKS jump in puddle]

47 *a tempo* (♩ = 120)
arco

mf *short pause*

Prayers from the Ark – Violin 2
5. The Prayer of the Donkey

Tempo *ad lib.*

*high gliss. *ad lib.* [HEE]

many glissandi *ad lib.*

5 (Donkey 2)

O God, who made me to trudge along the road al - ways, to carry heavy loads

mf > p

9

al - ways, and to be beaten al - ways!

mf > p *mf > p*

14

Give me great cour - age and gen - tle - ness. “Hee-Haw” sounds (see m. 1)

f *p* (*p*)

17 (Donkey 1)

One day let some - bod - y un - der - stand me - that I may no long - er want to weep be -

mf

*Violins play a high, quick, upward glissando, *ad lib.*, which is answered by Viola and Cello low, quick, downward glissando *ad lib.* to simulate the “hee-haw” sounds of a donkey

20

cause I can ne - ver say what I m - m - m - m-mean and they make fun of me. —

pizz.
p

23 *arco*

f *impassioned*

25 (Donkey 1)

and make them give me time to pick it. And, Lord, one day let me find a - gain my lit - tle

mf

29 *rit.* **Quickly**

broth - er of the Christ - mas crib.

p *pizz.* *arco* *f*

(Donkeys)
A - men.

A bit faster (like the opening)
"Hee-Haw" sounds (see m. 1)

rit.

32

f *rit.* *short pause*

6. The Prayer of the Butterfly

Lightly $\text{♩} = 72$
as a butterfly in flight

5 *con sord.* *mf*

9 [Butterfly enters] *p*

12

15 *poco rit.* (Butterfly) *f* *Slightly slower* *Slower* *p*

Your world is beau - ti - ful! This scent of

19 *a tempo* ($\text{♩} = 72$)

ros - es...

(Vln. 1) *Play* *pizz.* *(p)*

23 *a tempo* *p*

A drop of dew rolls to spar - kle in a lil - y's heart... I have to go...

arco, gentle tremolo, at the tip

27

Where? I do not know!

arco, ord.

p *mf* *p* *mf*

34

p *mf* (*mf*) *rit.*

39

Free measure

Where was I? Oh yes! Lord, I had something to tell you:

recited on pitch

pizz.

p

40

a tempo (♩ = 72)

(Vlc.) *arco* 6 6 6 6

p

44

rit.

via sord.

pp *short pause*

Prayers from the Ark – Violin 2
7. The Prayer of the Cat

(Vlc. numerous, random glissandi
as a “cat exploring”)

A graceful tempo ♩. = 72
senza sord.
Play

mf

4

9

p

13

mf

rit.

18 *recitative style*

It is not, exactly, that I have something to ask of You!

p

19

No – I ask nothing of a - ny - one – but, if You have by some chance, in some ce - les - tial

pizz.

mf

(20)

barn, a little white mouse, or a saucer of milk,

(*pizz.*)

[Vln. 1 enters]

p

21 *rit.*

(Cat) I know someone who would rel - ish them, rel - ish them, rel - ish them. —

25 **Original tempo** ♩. = 72

arco *mf* *pizz.* *arco* *gentle trem. gliss.* *p*

29

Would - n't You like some - day_ to put a curse on the whole race of dogs? —

sfp determined [cut off] *roughly, as noisy barking* *p < f*

30

(Cat) If so, I should say, —

(f) *p < ff*

Interlude 3

(♩. = 72)

mf *simile*

5

rit. *random ascending glissandi* *p* *short pause*

Lumbering tempo $\text{♩} = 60$ [repeat as long as necessary for Alto's costume change]

(Vlc.)

8. The Prayer of the Elephant

Lumbering tempo $\text{♩} = 60$ [repeat the previous 2 measures as long as needed for the Elephant to come to center stage.]

Play

f *mf*

6

pizz., lightly

11

arco *pizz., lightly*

Slower, more freely

16 (Bar.) great self, AH- and (pizz.) knock knuckle on body of instrument

not my fault

21 *rit.* *a tempo* ($\text{♩} = 60$) **Slower, more freely**

Play arco

big feet. *f*

27 *rit.* *p* (Tenor) poise. *f*

*thumb vs. fingers tremolo on body of instrument

*To suggest the precariousness of the situation.

32 **Slower**

(Sop.) Give me such phil - o - soph - ic thoughts *mf* *pizz.* ev - 'ry - where I

Prayers from the Ark – Violin 2
9. The Prayer of the Dove

Same tempo (♩ = 60) or slightly faster
with excitement of anticipation

con sord. *p* *mf* *rolled pizz.* sign of Your (Tenor) 3

8 *arco* *gentle gliss.* *p* (2) (3)

13 (4) (5) (6) (7) *rolled pizz.* *mf* sign of Your (Sop.) 3

22 *arco* *gentle gliss.* *p* *mf* *rit.* *pizz.* *via sord.* *p* *Slower* 3

a tempo (♩ = 60)
with building energy

30 (Tenor) The Ark waits, Lord; *arco, senza sord.* *mf* [Vla. enters]

34 6 6

36 6 6 6 *f*

40 *Slightly slower* *Slower* *pizz.* *rolled pizz.* *arco* *p* *f*

rit.
Grace im - mac - u - late. [Each singer sings "Amen" and exits]

45 A - men. A - men. A - men.
short pause

10. Noah and the Dove

an epilogue

Slowly $\text{♩} = 56$

(Noah cue: bailing out the Ark sounds, *do not play*)

[tap] [empty bucket] (2) (3) (4) pizz. (2)
pp almost inaudible (to suggest weariness)

7 (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8)

13 (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) *poco rit.*
arco

19 **Slightly slower** , *a tempo* ($\text{♩} = 56$) *as a dove in flight*
mf

finger trem. on body of instrument, fading as a dove flying away.

25 *rit. to end*
"Here is Your dove..." *mp* "Here is Your dove..." *p* (p) \triangleright *pp*

Viola

Gwyneth Walker

Prayers from the Ark

for SATB Soli and String Quartet

Viola

Prayers from the Ark

for SATB Soli and String Quartet

Carmen Bernos de Gasztold
Rumer Godden, trans.

Gwyneth Walker

Introduction (animal sounds)

[Singers off stage]

A raucous "symphony" of animal noises (vocal sounds) is produced by the singers (animals) *ad libitum*....
These sounds start before the strings begin to play, and continue during the playing.

Viola

(Vln. 1) enter *ad lib.* an "insistent" bird repeat two patterns *ad lib.*

(Vln. 2) *f*

accel.

[Vlc. enters] *sfp* *ff*

1. Noah's Prayer

Slowly, dramatically
as a recitative

f *p* *p*

5 *rit.* *pizz.* *a tempo* ♩ = 66 *rit.* **Slowly** (Noah) All this wa - ter makes my heart sink. *Play arco* (*p*)

9 (Vlns.) *Play* *f*

Selections from *Prayers from the Ark* are used with permission of Curtis Brown Group Ltd.

13 *rolled pizz.*

p *mf*

18 *arco* *rit. Slowly, emphatically*

f

22 *cov - en - ant. —*

(Noah) *Play* *poco accel.*

p 3 3

25 *Slightly faster* *rit.*

mf *p*

28 *Slowly* *rit.*

(Noah) *A - - - - - men. —*

p *rit.* *short pause*

Prayers from the Ark – Viola

2. The Prayer of the Dog

rit.
lovingly pat instrument as if patting a dog on his head

At a frisky tempo ♩ = 100

(Vlns.)

mf

♩ = 72 *recitativo style*

6

11

f

More quickly *rit.*

No one but you and I un - der - stand what faith - ful - ness is. _____

f _____ *p*

13

a tempo (♩ = 72)

(Dog)

They call me "Good dog! Nice dog!" Words...

an especially nice pat on the Dog's head → *rolled pizz.*

mf

Slightly faster ♩ = 88

15

I take their pats and the old bones they throw me _____ and I seem pleased. _____

arco

(mf) _____ *p* _____ *rolled pizz.* _____ *mf*

Free measure

19 (Dog)

They really believe they make me hap - py I take kicks too when they come my way.

arco
f

20 Original tempo (♩ = 72)

None of this mat - ters. I keep watch! Lord, do not let me die un -

mf *f*

24 Faster ♩ = 100 rit. ♩ = 72

til, for them, all dan - ger is driv - en a - way. A - - - men.

mf *mf* rolled pizz.

30 Faster rit.

A - men. A - men.

mp *p* lovingly pat instrument (Vlns.) final pat

short pause

Prayers from the Ark – Viola

Interlude 1

a tempo ♩ = 100
arco

mf

lightly knock knuckle on instrument
[to simulate a bird hopping]

p *attacca*

3. The Prayer of the Little Bird

Lightly ♩ = 100
as a small bird hopping on the ground

arco

(p)

wings flapping

5 *poco rit.* **Slightly slower**
at a comfortable recitative tempo

mp **p** *Play*

(Bird) pray by my-self ver-y well,

9 **With motion** ♩ = 72
gentle, light tremolo, at the tip

13 *rit.* **Slower**
more reflectively *rit.* ♩ = 72
ord.

mf **f** **p** **pp** barely audible

18 *rit.*

mf **f**

22 **Original tempo** (♩ = 100) *wings flapping*

p

25 *rit.* (Bird) A - A - A - A - - - A - men. [BIRD holds up worm] knock knuckle on instrument

p
short pause

Interlude 2

a tempo ♩ = 100 **Slowly** (Noah)

The days are long, Lord. All this wa - ter makes my heart sink.

(Vlc.)

9 **Slightly faster** *Play* *rit.* *Play*

mf (Vlc.) *p*

4. The Prayer of the Little Ducks

Bouncy tempo ♩ = 120
suitable for jumping in puddles

mf *simile*

5

9

p

13

mf

17

21

p *f*

25

poco rit. *Slightly slower*

mf

30

(Vln. 1)

f *accel.*

Freely, slower
recitative style

33 *a tempo* (♩ = 120) *rit.* (Duck 2)

Pro - tect all folk who

mf

36 (Duck 1) *accel.*

quack and ev - 'ry-one who knows how to swim.

p *f*

40 *a tempo* (♩ = 120)

p *p* *f*

44 *rit.* *snap pizz.*

[DUCKS jump in puddle]

p

47 *a tempo* (♩ = 120) *arco*

mf *short pause*

Prayers from the Ark – Viola
5. The Prayer of the Donkey

Tempo *ad lib.*

*low gliss. *ad lib.* [HAW]

many glissandi *ad lib.*

5 (Donkey 2)

O God, who made me to trudge along the road al - ways, to carry heavy loads al - ways,

(Donkey 1)
al - ways,

col Tenor

mf > *p*

10

al - ways, al - ways!

and to be beaten al - ways! Give me great cour - age and

mf > *p* *mf* > *p* *f*

15

gen - tle - ness. One day let some - bod - y un - der -

"Hee-Haw" sounds (see m. 1)

p (*p*)

18

(Donkey 1)

stand me - that I may no long - er want to weep be - cause I can ne - ver say what I

mf

*Violins play a high, quick, upward glissando, *ad lib.*, which is answered by Viola and Cello low, quick, downward glissando *ad lib.* to simulate the "hee-haw" sounds of a donkey

21

m - m - m - m-mean and they make fun of me.____

f

25 (Donkey 1)

pick it. And, Lord, one day let me find a - gain my lit - tle

mf

29 *rit.* **Quickly**

broth - er of the Christ - mas crib.

p *pizz.* *arco* *f*

(Donkeys) **A bit faster** (like the opening) *rit.*

32 A - men. "Hee-Haw" sounds (see m. 1)

A - men. "Hee-Haw" sounds (see m. 1)

(f) short pause

6. The Prayer of the Butterfly

Lightly $\text{♩} = 72$
as a butterfly in flight

con sord.

25

lil - y's heart. _ I have to go... Where? I do not know!

ord.
p

29

mf

34

rit.

39 *Free measure*

Where was I? Oh yes! Lord, I had something to tell you: (Vlins. pizz.)

40 *a tempo* ($\text{♩} = 72$)

Play
p

44 *rit.*

via sord.
pp
short pause

Prayers from the Ark – Viola
7. The Prayer of the Cat

A graceful tempo $\text{♩} = 72$

(Vlc. numerous, random glissandi
as a "cat exploring")

senza sord.

17 *rit.* *recitative style*

It is not, exactly, that I have something to ask of You!

19

No – I ask nothing of a - ny - one – but, if You have by some chance, in some ce - les - tial

(20) barn, a little white mouse, or a saucer of milk,

[Vln. 1 enters]

21 *rit.*

(Cat) I know someone who would rel - ish them, rel - ish them, rel - ish them. ___

25 *arco* **Original tempo** ♩. = 72 *pizz.* *arco* *gentle trem. gliss.*

mf *p*

29 *sfp* *determined* *roughly, as noisy barking* [cut off] *p* < *f*

Would - n't You like some - day _ to put a curse on the whole race of dogs? ___

30 (Cat) If so, I should say, *(f)* *p* < *ff*

Interlude 3

(♩. = 72) *mf* *simile*

5 *rit.* *random ascending glissandi* *p* *short pause*

Lumbering tempo $\text{♩} = 60$

[repeat as long as necessary for Alto's costume change]

(Vlc.)

8. The Prayer of the Elephant

Lumbering tempo $\text{♩} = 60$

[repeat the previous 2 measures as long as needed for the Elephant to come to center stage.]

Play

pizz., lightly

arco *pizz., lightly*

Slower, more freely

16 (Bar.) great self, AH- and *Play (pizz.)* knock knuckle on body of instrument *rit.*

not my fault

22 *(rit.)* *a tempo* ($\text{♩} = 60$) *Play arco* **Slower, more freely**

big feet. *f*

27 *rit.* *poise.* *(Tenor)* *(Sop.)* Give me such phil - o -

> p *f* **Slower**

**thumb vs. fingers tremolo on body of instrument*

*To suggest the precariousness of the situation.

33 soph - ic thoughts *pizz.* ev - 'ry - where I *arco*

39 *a tempo* ($\text{♩} = 60$)

things.

44 *pizz.* *arco* *pizz.* *arco* *pizz.* *arco* *pizz.* *arco*

short high gliss.

49 *rit.* (Women) A - men, A - men *a tempo* *arco* *rit.*

Raise bow in air as Elephant kicks and hold pose.

$\text{♩} = 60$ or slightly faster
(Vln. 1, bird in flight)

6

repeat as needed for preparation of next scene

9. The Prayer of the Dove

Same tempo ($\text{♩} = 60$) or slightly faster
with excitement of anticipation

con sord.

p

rolled pizz.

mf

(Tenor) sign of Your

8

arco, gentle gliss.
(in harmonics, Sul C)

p

rolled pizz.

mf

(Alto) sign of Your

arco

p

16

rolled pizz.

mf

(Sop.) sign of Your

arco

p

24

rit.

Slower

pizz. via sord.

p

a tempo ($\text{♩} = 60$)
with building energy

(Tenor) The Ark

31

arco, senza sord.

p

f

33

36

f

40

Slightly slower

Slower

pizz.

rolled pizz.

arco

p

(p)

f

rit.
Grace im - mac - u - late. *Play* [Each singer sings "Amen" and exits]
45 *A - men. A - men. A - men.*
short pause

10. Noah and the Dove *an epilogue*

Slowly $\text{♩} = 56$

(Noah cue: bailing out the Ark sounds, *do not play*)

[tap] [empty bucket] (2) (3) (4) *Play (join taps)* *pizz.* (8)
pp almost inaudible (to suggest weariness)

7 (3) (4) (5) (6) (7) (8)

13 (9) (10) (11) (12) (13) *poco rit. arco*

19 **Slightly slower**, *a tempo* ($\text{♩} = 56$) *as a dove in flight*
mf

25 *rit. to end*
"Here is Your dove..." *mp* "Here is Your dove..." *p* (*p*) \triangleright *pp*
finger trem. on body of instrument, fading as a dove flying away.

Violoncello

Gwyneth Walker

Prayers from the Ark

for SATB Soli and String Quartet

2 Violoncello

Prayers from the Ark

for SATB Soli and String Quartet

Carmen Bernos de Gasztold
Rumer Godden, trans.

Gwyneth Walker

Introduction (animal sounds)

[Singers off stage]

A raucous "symphony" of animal noises (vocal sounds) is produced by the singers (animals) *ad libitum*....
These sounds start before the strings begin to play, and continue during the playing.

(Vln. 1)

(Vln. 2)

(Vla.)

enter *ad lib.*
as a donkey "hee-haw"
repeat a few times

f

accel.

sfz *ff*

1. Noah's Prayer

Slowly, dramatically

as a recitative

f

rit.

p

6

a tempo ♩ = 66

p lifelessy, tired

rit.

Slowly

10

(Vlins.)

p

Play

f

p

Selections from *Prayers from the Ark* are used with permission of Curtis Brown Group Ltd.

14 *pizz.* *rolled pizz.* *arco*

mf

19 *rit.* **Slowly, emphatically**

f (Vln. 1) 3

24 *poco accel.* **Slightly faster** *rit.*

p 3 *mf* *p*

28 **Slowly** *rit.*

p

short pause

Prayers from the Ark – Violoncello

2. The Prayer of the Dog

At a frisky tempo ♩ = 100

(Vlns.)

rit.

lovingly pat instrument as if patting a dog on his head

2

mf

5 ♩ = 72 *recitativo style*

Lord, I keep watch! If I am not here who will guard their

pizz.

house? Watch o - ver their sheep? Be faith - ful?

arco

11

No one but you and I un - der - stand what faith - ful - ness is.

More quickly rit.

f *p*

13

a tempo (♩ = 72)
(Dog)

They call me "Good dog! Nice dog!" Words...

rolled pizz.

an especially nice pat on the Dog's head

mf

Slightly faster ♩ = 88

15

I take their pats and the old bones they throw me and I seem pleased.

arco
(mf) *p* *mf*
rolled pizz.

Free measure

19

They really believe they make me hap - py I take kicks too when they come my way.

f *arco* *f*

Original tempo (♩ = 72)

20

None of this mat-ters. I keep watch! Lord, do not let me

(Dog) *3* *Play* *f* *mf*

Faster ♩ = 100

rit.

♩ = 72

25

A - - - men. A - men. A - men.

3 *(Vlns.) 8va* *rolled pizz.* *lovingly pat instrument*
mf *mp*

Faster

rit.

31

3 *(Vlns.)* *final pat* *p*
short pause

Interlude 1

a tempo ♩ = 100

pizz. (1) (2) (3) (4)

mf

lightly knock knuckle on instrument
[to simulate a bird hopping]

6

p *attacca*

3. The Prayer of the Little Bird

Lightly ♩ = 100
as a small bird hopping on the ground

arco

(*p*)

wings flapping *poco rit.*

4 *mp*

Slightly slower
at a comfortable recitative tempo

7 *p* *Play* **With motion** ♩ = 72

(Bird) pray by my - self ver - y well,

10

Slower
rit. more reflectively rit.

12 *gentle, light tremolo, at the tip* *ord.* ♩ = 72

mf *f* *p*

17 *rit.*

pp barely audible *mf* *f*

Original tempo (♩ = 100)

22

p wings flapping

25

rit. (Bird) A - A - A - A - A - men. [BIRD holds up worm knock knuckle on instrument] *p* short pause

Interlude 2

a tempo ♩ = 100

(Vlns.) (2) (3) (4) *p* Play

6 *Slowly*

(Noah) The days are long, Lord. All this wa - ter makes my heart sink. *p*

9 *Slightly faster*

rit. Play *mf* *p*

4. The Prayer of the Little Ducks

Bouncy tempo ♩ = 120
suitable for jumping in puddles

mf *simile*

5

9

12

p *mf*

16

20

f *rolled pizz.* *arco*

25

poco rit. *Slightly slower* *mf*

29

(Vln. 1) *Play rolled pizz.* *accel.* *arco* *f*

Freely, slower
recitative style

33 *a tempo* (♩ = 120) *rit.* (Duck 2)

Pro - tect all folk who

mf

36 (Duck 1) *p*

quack and ev - 'ry - one who knows how to swim.

p

39 *accel.* *a tempo* (♩ = 120)

f *p* *p*

43 *f* *rolled pizz.* *rit.* *arco* *snap pizz.* [DUCKS jump in puddle]

47 *a tempo* (♩ = 120) *arco* *mf* *short pause*

mf *short pause*

Prayers from the Ark – Violoncello
5. The Prayer of the Donkey

Tempo *ad lib.*

*low gliss. *ad lib.* [HAW]

many
glissandi
ad lib.

5 (Donkey 2) (Donkey 1) al - ways,

O God, who made me to trudge along the road al - ways, to carry heavy loads al - ways,

p *sfp*

10 al - ways, al - ways!

and to be beaten al - ways! Give me great cour - age and

sfp *f*

15 gen - tle - ness. One day let some - bod - y un - der -

"Hee-Haw" sounds (see m. 1)

p (*p*) *mf*

18 stand me - that I may no long - er want to weep be -

(Donkey 1)

*Violins play a high, quick, upward glissando, *ad lib.*, which is answered by Viola and Cello low, quick, downward glissando *ad lib.* to simulate the "hee-haw" sounds of a donkey

20

cause I can ne - ver say what I m - m - m - mean and they make fun of me. —

snap pizz.

f

23

(Donkey 1)

and make them give me time to pick it. And, Lord,

arco

mf

28

rit. **Quickly**

one day let me find a - gain my lit - tle broth - er of the Christ - mas crib.

p

(Donkeys)
A - men.

A bit faster (like the opening) *rit.*

32

"Hee-Haw" sounds (see m. 1)

(f)

short pause

6. The Prayer of the Butterfly

Lightly $\text{♩} = 72$

as a butterfly in flight

con sord.

(Vla.) $\text{♩} = 72$

p

6

mf

9 [Butterfly enters]

p

12

15 *poco rit.* (Butterfly)

Your world is beau - ti - ful! This scent of

f *p*

19 *a tempo* ($\text{♩} = 72$)

ros - es...

pizz. (*p*)

23 *a tempo*

A drop of dew rolls to spar - kle in a lil - y's heart. — I have to go...

arco (*p*)

27 (Vlins. & Vla.) *Play*
 Where? I do not know!
mf 6 6

30
mf 6 6 6 6 6 6

33 6 6 6 6 6 6

36 6 6 6 6 *rit.*

39 *Free measure* (Butterfly) *a tempo* (♩ = 72)
 Where was I? Oh yes! Lord, I had something to tell you:
 (Vlins. pizz.) (Vla.) 6 6

41 (1) (2) (3)
p 6 6 6 6 6 6

44 *rit.* *via sord.*
pp short pause

7. The Prayer of the Cat

*short, random, glissandi, on any string, in different ranges, to simulate a cat exploring the barn
senza sord.*

V simile

f

2 *A graceful tempo* ♩ = 72

(1) (2) (3) (4) (5)

mf

10

random pitches (but in rhythm)

V V V

pizz.

(*mf*)

16 *rit.* *recitative style*

arco

It is not, exactly, that I have something to ask of You!

p

19

No – I ask nothing of a - ny - one – but, if You have by some chance, in some ce - les - tial

(20)

barn, a little white mouse, or a saucer of milk,

pizz.

[Vln. 1 enters] *p*

21 *rit.*

(Cat) I know someone who would rel - ish them, rel - ish them, rel - ish them. —

25 *arco* *mf* *p*

Original tempo ♩. = 72

29 *sfp* *determined*

Would - n't You like some - day — to put a curse on the whole race of dogs? — [cut off]

30 *f* *p* *ff*

(Cat) If so, I should say,

Interlude 3

(♩. = 72) *mf*

5 *rit.* *p* *short pause*

random ascending glissandi

Lumbering tempo $\text{♩} = 60$ [repeat as long as necessary for Alto's costume change]

8. The Prayer of the Elephant

Lumbering tempo $\text{♩} = 60$ [repeat the previous 2 measures as long as needed for the Elephant to come to center stage.]

6 *pizz., lightly*

11 *arco* *pizz., lightly*

16 **Slower, more freely**

(Bar.) great self, AH- and Play (*pizz.*) knock knuckle on body of instrument

not my fault

21 *rit.* *a tempo* ($\text{♩} = 60$) **Slower, more freely**

Play arco

big — feet. *f*

30 *rit.* **Slower** *pizz.*

**thumb vs. fingers tremolo on body of instrument*

(Tenor) poise. *f* Give me such phil - o - soph - ic thoughts *mf*

(Sop.)

*To suggest the precariousness of the situation.

35 ev - 'ry-where I *arco* *a tempo* (♩ = 60)

42 *pizz.*

48 *rit.* A - men, A - men *a tempo* *arco* *rit.* Raise bow in air as Elephant kicks and hold pose.

♩ = 60 or slightly faster

(Vln. 1, bird in flight)

9. The Prayer of the Dove

Same tempo ($\text{♩} = 60$) or slightly faster

with excitement of anticipation
con sord.

p *rolled pizz.* *mf* (Tenor) sign of Your

arco, gentle gliss.
(in harmonics, Sul C)

8 *p* *rolled pizz.* *mf* (Alto) sign of Your *arco* *p*

16 *rolled pizz.* *mf* (Sop.) sign of Your *arco* *p*

24 *rit.* *Slower* *pizz.* *via sord.* *arco, senza sord.* *slight accent (1)* *mf* *p* (S, A, T) comes from You.

a tempo ($\text{♩} = 60$)
with building energy

29 (2) (3) (4) (5) (6)

34 (7) (8) *f*

Slightly slower

Slower

40 *pizz.* *rolled pizz.* *arco* *p* *f*

rit.

Play

[Each singer sings "Amen" and exits]

45 *p* Grace im - mac - u - late. A - men. A - men. A - men.

short pause

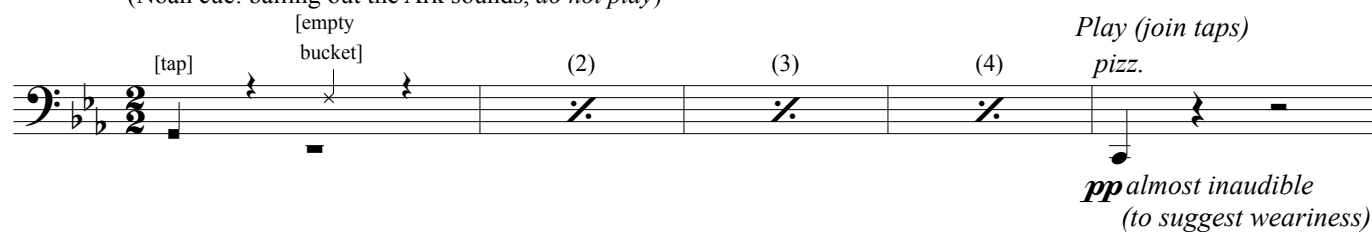
10. Noah and the Dove

an epilogue

Slowly $\text{♩} = 56$

(Noah cue: bailing out the Ark sounds, *do not play*)

[tap] [empty bucket] (2) (3) (4) *Play (join taps)*
pizz.



pp almost inaudible
(to suggest weariness)

6 (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) (7)



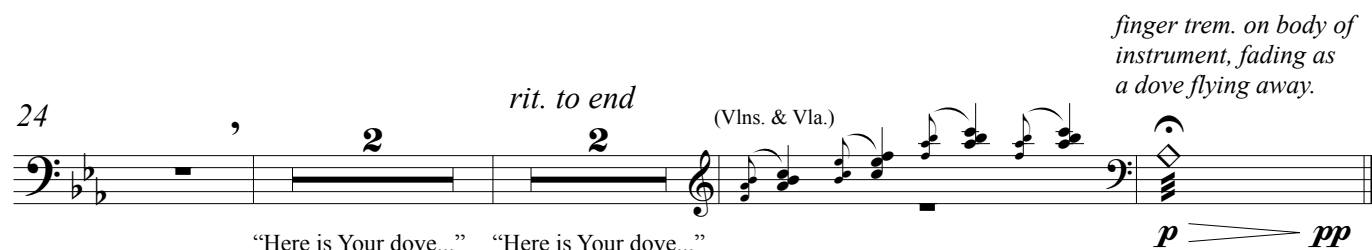
12 (8) (9) (10) (11) (12) (13)



18 *poco rit.* **Slightly slower** *arco* *mf* *a tempo* ($\text{♩} = 56$)



24 *rit. to end* (Vlns. & Vla.) *p* p *finger trem. on body of instrument, fading as a dove flying away.*



“Here is Your dove...” “Here is Your dove...”