

SAB

Aesop's Fables (Volume 1)

\$2.50

Christopher Alexander

# Aesop's Fables (Volume 1)

- I. The Lion and the Mouse
- II. The Dog and His Reflection
- III. The Crow and the Pitcher
- IV. The Farmer and His Sons

*SAB and Piano*

*Also available in: SATB, SSA, TTB, and Two-Part*

**cantareworks**

THE MUSIC OF CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

## About the Work

As part of the first volume of adapting Aesop's morals and tales into concert works for your school choir, these fables are varied in their musical settings. Illustrating each story is the colorful piano accompaniment that gives the player the opportunity to perform multiple eras of musical styles, and the voice leading facilitates the choir to become narrators of Aesop's tales and bring the stories to life. Your audiences will enjoy hearing each movement as they unfold from the stage.

*Poetic texts are listed on the following page.*

## About the Composer



Mr. Christopher Alexander is an award-winning composer and arranger from St. Joseph, Missouri. He received his Bachelor of Science in Vocal Music Education degree from Missouri Western State University in 2009. A self-taught pianist, his compositions and arrangements ranging from instrumental works to vocal solo and choral literature. Mr. Alexander has been commissioned numerous times by singing groups and church choirs within the northwest Missouri and northeast Kansas regions. He is also active in musical theatre productions as a music director and pianist. His works have been published with GIA Music Publications and Hal Leonard.

In 2016, he was awarded the St. Joseph Allied Arts Council Mayor's Award for Artist of the Year. In 2022, he was inducted into the New Generation Singers Hall of Fame.

Mr. Alexander currently serves as the pianist and primary arranger for The New Generation Singers, a Christian singing youth group based in St. Joseph, Missouri. He is a member of NAFME, ACDA, MCDA, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity.

He is available for commissions and conducting events on request.

# AESOP'S FABLES

(Volume 1)

SAB and Piano

Based on the works of  
AESOP (620-564 BCE)

Words and Music by  
CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

It is encouraged to read aloud the moral of each fable (*the italicized phrase under each movement title*)  
to the audience before each movement. This can be done by one person or the entire choir.

## I. THE LION AND THE MOUSE

*"An act of kindness is never wasted."*

With spirit (♩ = c. 76-80)

SOPRANO  
ALTO

BARITONE

PIANO

With spirit (♩ = c. 76-80)

*mf* *espress.*

*unis. mf*

A  
*mf*

Also available in: SATB, SSA, TTB, and Two-Part.

## II. THE DOG AND HIS REFLECTION

*"It is very foolish to be very greedy."*

65

Jauntily (♩ = 96)

*unis. mf*

Musical notation for measures 65-68. The score is in G major and 6/8 time. The vocal line consists of whole rests for measures 65, 66, and 67, followed by a quarter note G5 in measure 68. The piano accompaniment consists of whole rests for all four measures. A section marker 'A' is placed at the end of measure 68.

65

Jauntily (♩ = 96)

Piano accompaniment for measures 65-68. The right hand plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes and chords, while the left hand plays a simple bass line. The tempo is marked as Jauntily (♩ = 96). The dynamic is mezzo-forte (mf).

69

Vocal line for measures 69-72. The lyrics are: "dog was proudly head - ing home With some". The melody is in G major and 6/8 time, with a tempo of Jauntily (♩ = 96). The dynamic is mezzo-forte (mf).

69

Piano accompaniment for measures 69-72. The right hand plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes and chords, while the left hand plays a simple bass line. The tempo is marked as Jauntily (♩ = 96). The dynamic is mezzo-forte (mf).

73

Vocal line for measures 73-76. The lyrics are: "food with - in his bite. He". The melody is in G major and 6/8 time, with a tempo of Jauntily (♩ = 96). The dynamic is mezzo-forte (mf).

73

Piano accompaniment for measures 73-76. The right hand plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes and chords, while the left hand plays a simple bass line. The tempo is marked as Jauntily (♩ = 96). The dynamic is mezzo-forte (mf).

### III. THE CROW AND THE PITCHER

*"Little by little, our good wits can help us out."*

123 With mystery (♩ = 88-92)  
*unis. mp*

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

123 With mystery (♩ = 88-92)  
*8va*  
 (opt. scappella)

126

and a crow who was

126 *loco*  
 (play) *mp espress.*

129 *unis.*

full of thirst, His

129

# IV. THE FARMER AND HIS SONS

"Our journeys can become our biggest treasures."

155 Solemn (♩ = 88-92) *unis. p*

Musical notation for measures 155-158. The vocal staves are mostly empty, with a final note in measure 158. The piano accompaniment consists of a few chords in the bass register.

155 Solemn (♩ = 88-92) *p poco marcato*

Musical notation for measures 155-158, piano accompaniment. The piano part features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in the bass and chords in the treble.

159

dy - ing farm - er Called his sons to his bed - side. He

Musical notation for measures 159-162. The vocal staves contain the lyrics: "dy - ing farm - er Called his sons to his bed - side. He". The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic pattern.

159

Musical notation for measures 159-162, piano accompaniment. The piano part continues with the same rhythmic pattern.

163 *cresc.* *mp*

said, "My boys, I want no more se - crets to hide. I

Musical notation for measures 163-166. The vocal staves contain the lyrics: "said, 'My boys, I want no more se - crets to hide. I". The piano accompaniment features a crescendo and a change in dynamics to *mp*.

163 *cresc.* *mp*

Musical notation for measures 163-166, piano accompaniment. The piano part continues with the same rhythmic pattern, featuring a crescendo and a change in dynamics to *mp*.