

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 (♩ = ca. 76)

PIANO

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, 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

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 I 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

mf

A

TENOR
BASS

Lilting (♩ = ca. 92)

PIANO

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: *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

37

f

barked and yapped to scare his foe, but

f

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

p

Expressively (♩ = ca. 88)

8^{va}

p (opt. a cappella through m. 4)

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

4

share

and a crow who was

(play) *p*

7

full of thirst. His

mp

mp

mp *decresc.*

10

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

mp

mp

13 *rit.* **Mysteriously (♩ = ca. 100)** *p*

plan first. He

p

Mysteriously (♩ = 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*

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*

Grandly (♩ = ca. 84)

28

molto rit. *ff*

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

ff

molto rit. *ff*