

A Short, Slow Life

for Suzie LeBlanc and Symphony Nova Scotia

Score in C

Elizabeth Bishop

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$\text{♩} = 44$ ($\text{♩} = 66$)

(3+2+2)

mp *mf* *p* *mp*

soprano

We lived in a pock-et of Time. It was close, it was

flutes 1 and 2

f p *mf* *pp*

oboe

f p *mf* *pp* *p* *mp*

oboe 2/
English horn

f p *mf* *pp*

B $\flat$ clarinets 1 and 2

bassoons 1 and 2

p

horns 1 and 2

trumpet in C

harp

mf *mp* *mf* *mp*

(D C $\sharp$ B1 E F G A)

violin 1

violin 2

pizz. *pp*

viola

tr (A) *unmeasured tremolo* *pp*

f p *mf*

cello

tr (A) *unmeasured tremolo* *pp*

f p *mf* *mp* *pizz.* *pp*

bass

f p *unmeasured tremolo* *mf* *pp*

(♩ = ♩)

sop *p* warm _____ *mf* It was close _____, it was warm _____. A -

fl (a 1) *mf* *mp* *ppp* *mp* *mf* *mp* (a 2)

ob 1 *p* *ppp* *mp* *mf* *mp*

EH *mf* *mp* *ppp* *mp* (a 2)

cl *p*

bn *mf* *mp*

hn (a 1)

hp *p* *mf* *mp*
(D^b C B^b | E^b F G^b A^b)

vln 1 *pp*

vln 2 (pizz.) *p* *mp*

vla *pp* *mp*

vlc *pp* *mp*

db (pizz.) *p* *mp*

A

(♩ = ♩)

♩ = 88 (old ♩ = new ♩)

17

sop *mf* *pp*
long the dark seam of the riv- er

fl 1 *mf* *pp*

fl 2 *mf* *pp* niente

ob 1 *mf* *p*

EH *mf* *mp*

cl 1 *mf* *pp*

cl 2 *mf* *p*

bn *mf* *p*

hn *mf* laissez vibrer

hp *mf* *mp* *p*
B $\sharp$ A $\sharp$

vln 1 *mf* *pp*

vln 2 *arco* *mf* *pp*

vla *mf* *mp* *pp* niente

vlc *mf* *mp* *pp* niente

db *mf* *mp* *pp*

26

sop

fl 1

fl 2

ob

cl

bn

vln 1

vln 2

vla

vlc

db

mp

mp

mp

mp

35

sop

(a 2)

fl

pp

p

ob

cl

(a 1)

pp

p

bn

hn 1

invert mouthpiece and blow into horn

niente

hn 2

invert mouthpiece and blow into horn

niente

bisbigliando (starting slowly and speeding up towards m. 42)

downwards or in varying order

hp

pp

p

(D C# Bb 1 Eb F Gb A)

vln 1

pp

p

vln 2

pp

p

vla

vlc

db

6

playful

playful

♩. = 58 (approx. ♩ = ♩)

7

60 (3+2)

sop

fl

ob (a 1)
p

cl

bn

(a 2)
p

70

warm
mp *mf* *mp* (non-slurred notes are very slightly separated)

A - long the dark seam of the riv - er - , ah , ah

sop

fl 1
mp *p* *mf* *mp*

fl 2
p *mp* *p*

ob 1
mp *p* *p*

EH English horn
p *mp*

cl

bn 1
mp *p* *mp* *p*

bn 2
mp *p* *mf* *mp*

vln 1
pp

vln 2

vla

vlc

db

77 *mf* *mp* *f* *mf* *p*

sop *ah*

fl 1 *mf* *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *mf*

fl 2 *mf* *mp* *mp* *f* *mp* *mf*

ob 1 *mf* *mp* *mp* *f* *mp*

EH *mf* *mf* *mp* *f* *mp*

cl 1 *pp* *f* *mp*

cl 2 *pp* *f* *mp*

bn 1 *mf* *f* *p* *f*

bn 2 *mf* *f* *f*

hn 1 *mf*

vln 1 *p* *mp* *p* *mp* *p* *mp*

vln 2 *pp* *mp* *p* *mp*

vla *pp* *mp*

vlc *pp* *mp*

db *mp*

C

a little restless

84

sop

fl

ob 1

EH

cl 1

cl 2

bn

hn

tpt

vln 1

vln 2

vla

vlc

db

p

mp

pp

con sordino

niente

94 (3+2+3) (3+2+3) (3+2+3)

sop

fl

ob 1

EH

cl 1

cl 2

bn

hn

tpt

vln 1

vln 2

vla

vlc

db

mf

f

mp

oboe 2

103

sop *mp* *mf* *p* *mp*
A - long the dark seam of the riv - er, ah

fl (a 1) *p*

ob 1 *p*

ob 2 *mf* *p* *mp* *pp*

cl 1 *mp* *mf* *p*

cl 2 *p*

bn 1 *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf*

bn 2 *mp* *mf* *p*

hn *p* *mp*

tpt *mp* *mp*

vln 1 *p* *mp* *pp* *pp*

vln 2 *mp* *mf* *p* *mp* *pp*

vla *mp* *mf* *p*

vlc *mp* *mf* *mp*

db *p* *mp* *pp*

111

sop *mf* *mp* *sweetly* (3+2+3)
A - long the dark seam of the riv - er the

fl (a 2) *mf* *pp* *p* *mp*

ob (a 1) *mf* *mp*

cl 1 *mf* *pp*

cl 2 *p* *mf* *pp*

bn *p* *mf*

hn a 1 *p* *mp*

tpt *p* *mp* *pp*

hp *p* *mp*

(D# C# Bb | E# F# G# A)

vln 1 *p* *ppp*

vln 2

vla

vlc

db

slight rubato

f *mf* *mp*

D *light, rhythmic*
♩ = 58
pp

118

sop
hous - es, the barns, the two church - es, hid, hid, hid like white crumbs

fl

ob

cl

bn

hp

mf *mp* *p* *pp*

(D# C Bb | E# F# G A)

vln 1

vln 2

vla

vlc

db

pizz. *pp* *pizz.* *pp*

130

sop
hid like white crumbs, hid like white crumbs, hid like white crumbs in a fluff of grey wil-lows,

fl

ob

cl

bn

hp

vln 1

vln 2

vla

vlc

db

pizz. *pizz.*

142 *p* *mp*

sop *p* hid like white crumbs in a fluff of grey wil-lows, *mp* hid like white crumbs in a fluff of grey

fl *mp*

ob

cl *p* *mp*

bn *p* *mp*

hp *p* *mp*

vln 1 *p* *mp*

vln 2 *p* *mp*

vla *p* *mp*

vlc *p* *mp*

db

154 *mf* *mp* G.P.

sop a fluff of grey wil-lows, a fluff of grey wil-lows, of wil-lows and elms, *mf* *mp*

fl *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp*

ob *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp*

cl *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp*

bn *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp*

hp *mf* *mp*

vln 1 *mf* *mp*

vln 2 *mf* *mp*

vla *arco* *mf* *mp*

vlc *arco* *mf* *mp*

db *arco* *mf* *mp*

E

165 *pp*

sop *pp*

hid, hid, hid, hid, hid, hid, hid like white crumbs, hid, hid,

fl *pp*

ob *pp*

cl *p* *pp* *p*

bn *pp*

178 *p* *mp*

sop *p* *mp*

hid like white crumbs in a fluff of grey wil - lows, like white crumbs in a fluff grey wil - lows,

fl

ob

cl *p, poco a poco cresc.*

bn

vln 1 *arco* *p, poco a poco cresc.*

vln 2 *arco* *p, poco a poco cresc.*

vla *p, poco a poco cresc.*

vlc *p, poco a poco cresc.*

db

F

189 *mf*

sop
hid white crumbs in a fluff grey a fluff of grey wil - lows, hid like white crumbs till time Time,

fl
(a 2) *mp*

ob
(a 1) *mp*

cl 1
mp

cl 2
mp

bn
mp

hn
mf

tpt
mf

vln 1
mp

vln 2
mp 8va

vla
mp

vlc
mp

db
mp

(3+2) G.P.
(long)

200 *ff*

sop Time, Time, Time *tr* (G $\sharp$) (end trill)

fl *tr* (G $\sharp$) (end trill) *f* *p*

ob *f* *p*

cl 1 *f* *p*

cl 2 (continue 3-note *tr* (D E $\flat$ C)) *f* *p*

bn *f* *p*

hn (continue 3-note *tr* (D E $\flat$ C)) transform into unpitched air sound *f* *p*

tpt *tr* (G $\sharp$) end trill transform into unpitched air sound *f* *p*

vln 1 *tr* (G $\sharp$) end trill *f* *p*

vln 2 *f* *loco* *p*

vla (continue 3-note *tr* (D E $\flat$ C)) *f* *p*

vlc *tr* (E $\flat$) end trill *f* *p*

db *f* *p*

G*freely (unmeasured)*

(The soprano has the option to improvise or compose a cadenza here if desired. It could replace and/or extend mm. 210-214.)

210 *p* *mp* *mf* *mp* *< mf*

sop Time, Time, Time _____, ah _____ ah _____ ah _____ ah _____

214 *mp* *smooth* $\text{♩} = 88$ *(voice still unmeasured)* *mf* *(voice a tempo)* *pp*

sop Time, Time, Time _____, ah _____ hm _____

vln 1

vln 2

vla

vlc *ppp*

db *ppp*

224 *pp* *mp* *(short)* *p*

sop hid like white crumbs in a fluff of white wil - lows _____, hid like white crumbs in a fluff of white

hp *pp*

(D C B $\flat$ | E $\flat$ F $\sharp$ G A)

vln 1

vln 2 *pp*

vla *pp*

vlc *mp* *pp*

db *mp* *pp*

233 *mf* *mp* $\text{♩} = 58$ continue accel. *f*

sop
wil - lows, they hid like white crumbs in a fluff of grey wil - lows till Time_ made one of his gest - ures; his nails scratched, nails scratched,

fl 1 *p* *f*

fl 2 *mp* *f*

ob 1 *mp* *f*

ob 2 *mp* *f*

cl 1 *p* *f*

cl 2 *mp* *f*

bn 1 *p* *f*

bn 2 *p* *f*

hn *pp* *f*

tpt *pp* *f*

hp *mp* *p* *f*

vln 1 *p* *mp* *p* *mp* *p* *mp* *f*

vln 2 *mp* *p* *mp* *p* *mp* *p* *f*

vla *mp* *p* *mp* *p* *mp* *p* *f*

vlc *mp* *p* *mp* *mp* *f*

db *mp* *f*

8va

243

sop

his nails scratched, nails scratched, his nails scratched, nails scratched, his nails scratched the shingle

fl

ob

cl 1

cl 2

f

bn

(a 2)

f

hn

(a 2)

f

tpt

f

hp

B $\natural$

loco

vln 1

continue quarter note rhythm, with interval gradually widening from min. 2nd to min. 3rd (E $\flat$ sharpening to E on downbeats, D flattening to D $\flat$ on 2nd beats)

vln 2

slow gliss

vla

continue quarter note rhythm, with interval gradually widening from min. 2nd to min. 3rd (E $\flat$ sharpening to E on downbeats, D flattening to D $\flat$ on 2nd beats)

vlc

slow gliss

db

I

♩ = 148

(until reverberation
has died away)

mf

percussive, a bit rough

mf

254 *fff*

sop roof. and Rough - ly, his hand

fff *mp* *mp*

fl *fff*

ob *fff* *mp*

cl 1 *fff*

cl 2 *fff*

bn *fff*

hn *fff*

tpt *fff*

hp *fff* B♭

vln 1 *fff*

vln 2 *fff*

vla *fff*

vlc *fff*

db *fff*

283

f $\rightrightarrows$ *mf* *f* $\rightrightarrows$ *mf* *mf*

sop Rough - ly his, Rough - ly his hand, Rough - ly his hand, Rough - ly his hand,

fl *mf*

ob *mf*

cl

bn

hn *mp*

hp

vln 1 *mp* $\rightrightarrows$ *p* *mp* $\rightrightarrows$ *p* *mf*

vln 2

vla

vlc

db *mf*

pochiss. rit.

a tempo

(3+3+1)

290

sop
Rough - ly his hand reached in, and tumb - led us out _____.

fl

ob

cl (cl 2)
pp

bn (bn 2)
pp

hn

tpt

hp
laissez vibrer
pp

G# E# F#

vln 1
f p

vln 2
f

vla
f p

vlc
f p

db
f

[illegible]

303

sop

fl (fl 1)

ob (ob 1)

cl

bn (bn 1)

hp

vln 1

vln 2

vla

vlc

db

mf *mp* *mf* *mp* *p* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pizz.* *pp*

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for measures 303 through 306. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The time signature is 4/4. The instruments and their parts are: Soprano (sop), Flute (fl 1), Oboe (ob 1), Clarinet (cl), Bassoon (bn 1), Harp (hp), Violin 1 (vln 1), Violin 2 (vln 2), Viola (vla), Violoncello (vlc), and Double Bass (db). The dynamics for each instrument are: sop (none), fl 1 (mf, mp), ob 1 (mf, mp, p), cl (p, pp), bn 1 (p, pp), hp (pp), vln 1 (mf, mp), vln 2 (mp, mf, p), vla (mp, p, pp), vlc (mf, mp, p, pp), and db (mp, p, pizz., pp). The score includes various musical notations such as slurs, ties, and articulation marks.