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# Six Reflections Through Music and Poetry

Nicholas Shawn Vecchio  
*University of Arkansas, Fayetteville*

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Six Reflections Through Music and Poetry

A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment  
of the requirements for the degree of  
Master of Music in Music Composition

by

Nicholas Vecchio  
University of Arkansas  
Bachelor of Music in Music Theory, 2013

December 2016  
University of Arkansas

This thesis is approved for recommendation to the Graduate Council

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Dr. Robert Mueller  
Thesis Director

---

Professor Nastassja Riley  
Committee Member

---

Dr. Richard Salonen  
Committee Member

### Abstract

Since beginning school at the University of Arkansas in 2008 I have learned many lessons both in and outside the classroom. To date, the most challenging lessons have been those that I have learned about myself. The manifestation of the person that I am today has been an adventure with many twists and turns. This piece aims to capture the essence of some of the lessons that I have learned. Each poem offers the product of that lesson.

The movement entitled “Memories” has a subdued joy in its message. The poem offers nostalgia to begin the piece with. However, it is also a commentary on my own struggles with memory loss. The following movement, “The Musicians’ Wife,” is an exploration of relationships. While the external message may focus on the relationship with another person, the internal message is about the relationship with the self. The third movement, “The Road Not Taken,” is a poem by Robert Frost. The poem’s message is to encourage individuals to walk a different path than everyone else. The fourth and fifth movement are centered around the idea of how I personally have come to learn the various lessons that life has offered. The projected message is that the most valuable lessons are those not easily learned. Finally, “O Me! O Life!” utilizes a Walt Whitman poem for the music. The poem, like the corresponding music, asks many hard questions. As it concludes the movement provides a simple and serene answer.

The music written is not to accompany each of the poems. Rather, the poems are to accompany the music. The orchestration for any performances can be any instrument in any amount per part. When performing this piece, the musicians should not be formally dressed, except for the individual reciting the poetry. If the ensemble wishes to add a visual element to the performance, they may allow individuals to wander the stage and isles and pose pensively to further the reflective mood.

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**Reproduced from <i>The Collected Poems of Weldon Kees</i> by Weldon Kees by permission of the University of Nebraska Press. Copyright 1975 by University of Nebraska Press	
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Score

# Memories

Adagio ♩ = 30

I

Nick Vecchio

Oboe

Vibraphone

Voice

Cello II

5

Ob.

Vib.

Vc. II

Half Pedal/Pedal appropriately

*p*

9

Ob.

Vib.

Vc. II

*mp*

*legato*

3

12

Ob.

Vib.

Vc. II

Voice: How sweet the silent backward tracings! The wanderings as in Dreams- The meditations of

15

Ob.

Vib.

Vc. II

Voice: old time resumed. Their loves, joys, persons voyages

18

Ob.

Vib.

Vc. II

Score

# The Musicians Wife

## II

Nick Vecchio

21

Ob.

21

Vib.

21

Vln. I

21

Vln. II

Vc. I

Vc. II

D.B. I

The Musicians Wife

M.M. ♩ = c. 185-195

Oboe

Voice

Vln. I  
*mf*

Vln. II  
*mf*

Vc. I

Cello II

D.B. I  
*mf*

The musical score is for a piece titled "The Musicians Wife". It is in 5/4 time and marked with a tempo of approximately 185-195 beats per minute. The score includes parts for Oboe, Voice, Violin I, Violin II, Violoncello I, Cello II, and Double Bass I. The Oboe, Voice, Violoncello I, and Cello II parts are mostly silent, indicated by rests. The Violin I and Violin II parts play a melodic line starting on G4 and moving up stepwise. The Double Bass I part plays a bass line starting on G2 and moving up stepwise. All active parts are marked with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic.



The Musicians Wife

Ob. *mf*

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vc. I

Vc. II

D.B. I *mp*

The musical score is arranged in six staves. The top staff is for Oboe (Ob.), the next two for Violins I and II (Vln. I, Vln. II), the next two for Violas (Vc. I, Vc. II), and the bottom staff for Double Bass I (D.B. I). The Oboe part begins with a fermata in the first measure, followed by a half note G4 in the second measure, and a quarter note A4 in the third measure. The Violin I and II parts play a melodic line of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5. The Viola parts are silent. The Double Bass I part plays a melodic line of quarter notes: G2, A2, B2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3. Dynamics are marked as *mf* for the Oboe and *mp* for the Double Bass I.

The Musicians Wife

Ob.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vc. I

Vc. II

D.B. I

*mp*

9

9

9

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for 'The Musicians Wife'. It features six staves: Oboe (Ob.), Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Violoncello I (Vc. I), Violoncello II (Vc. II), and Double Bass I (D.B. I). The Oboe part begins with a dynamic marking of *9* and plays a melodic line with a dotted quarter note, followed by eighth notes and a half note. The Violin II part starts with a dynamic marking of *mp* and plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The Double Bass I part plays a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The Violin I, Violoncello I, and Violoncello II parts are marked with a dynamic of *9* and contain rests throughout the page. The score is divided into four measures by vertical bar lines.

The Musicians Wife

18

Ob.

18

Vln. I

*mp*

Vln. II

Vc. I

Vc. II

D.B. I

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for 'The Musicians Wife'. It features six staves: Oboe (Ob.), Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Violoncello I (Vc. I), Violoncello II (Vc. II), and Double Bass I (D.B. I). The Oboe part begins at measure 18 with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The Violin I part has a whole rest in measure 18, then enters in measure 19 with a half note G4, marked *mp*. The Violin II part plays a steady eighth-note pattern starting in measure 18. The Violoncello I and II parts have whole rests throughout. The Double Bass I part plays a steady eighth-note pattern starting in measure 18. The page is numbered 18 at the top left of the Oboe staff.

The Musicians Wife

Ob. <sup>17</sup>

Vln. I <sup>17</sup>

Vln. II <sup>17</sup>

Vc. I

Vc. II

D.B. I

*mp*

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for 'The Musicians Wife'. It features six staves: Oboe (Ob.), Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Violoncello I (Vc. I), Violoncello II (Vc. II), and Double Bass I (D.B. I). The Oboe part begins at measure 17 with a melodic line. The Violin I and II parts play a rhythmic eighth-note pattern. The Violoncello I part is mostly silent, while the Violoncello II and Double Bass I parts play a similar eighth-note pattern. A dynamic marking of *mp* (mezzo-piano) is placed above the Vc. II staff. The score is divided into four measures by vertical bar lines.

The Musicians Wife

21

Ob.

21

Between the visits to the shock ward The doctors used to let you play on

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vc. I

Vc. II

D.B. I

*mp*

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for the piece 'The Musicians Wife'. It features a vocal line and an orchestral accompaniment. The vocal line, in treble clef, contains the lyrics 'Between the visits to the shock ward The doctors used to let you play on' starting at measure 21. The orchestral accompaniment includes parts for Oboe (Ob.), Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Violoncello I (Vc. I), Violoncello II (Vc. II), and Double Bass I (D.B. I). The Oboe part has rests in measures 21-24. The string parts (Vln. I, Vln. II, Vc. I, Vc. II, D.B. I) play a steady eighth-note accompaniment. A dynamic marking of *mp* (mezzo-piano) is placed above the Vc. I staff in measure 22. The score is divided into four measures by vertical bar lines.

The Musicians Wife

Repeat 4 times

25

Ob.

25

Old upright Baldwin Donated by a former patient Who is said to be quite stable now.

25

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vc. I

Vc. II

D.B. I

Detailed description: This is a musical score for a scene titled "The Musicians Wife". The score is for a full orchestra and a vocal soloist. It consists of seven staves. The top staff is for the Oboe (Ob.), which has a whole rest in every measure. The second staff is for the vocal soloist, with the lyrics "Old upright Baldwin Donated by a former patient Who is said to be quite stable now." written below the notes. The remaining five staves are for the string section: Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Violin Cello I (Vc. I), Violin Cello II (Vc. II), and Double Bass I (D.B. I). All string parts play a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The score is marked with a "25" at the beginning of each staff, indicating the measure number. A "Repeat 4 times" instruction is placed at the top right of the page.

The Musicians Wife

29

Ob.

29 And all day  
long you played Chopin, Badly and hauntingly, when you weren't screaming on the porch that looked

29

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vc. I

Vc. II

D.B. I

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for the piece 'The Musicians Wife'. The page contains six staves of music. The top staff is for the Oboe (Ob.), followed by the vocal line with lyrics. Below the vocal line are five instrumental staves: Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Violin I (Vc. I), Violin II (Vc. II), and Double Bass I (D.B. I). The score begins at measure 29. The Oboe part features a melodic line with a slur over the first two measures and a repeat sign at the end. The vocal line has the lyrics 'And all day long you played Chopin, Badly and hauntingly, when you weren't screaming on the porch that looked'. The instrumental parts consist of rhythmic patterns of eighth notes. The page is numbered 11 at the bottom.

The Musicians Wife

Ob. <sup>33</sup>

Repeat 4 times

<sup>33</sup> Like an enormous birdcage. Or sat In your room and stared out at the sky.

Vln. I <sup>33</sup>

Vln. II

Vc. I

Vc. II

D.B. I

The musical score is arranged in a system with six staves. The top staff is for the Oboe (Ob.), followed by a vocal line with lyrics. Below the vocal line are staves for Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Violoncello I (Vc. I), Violoncello II (Vc. II), and Double Bass I (D.B. I). The vocal line includes the instruction 'Repeat 4 times' and the lyrics 'Like an enormous birdcage. Or sat In your room and stared out at the sky.' The score is marked with a rehearsal sign '33' at the beginning of each staff.



The Musicians Wife

37

Ob.

37 You never looked at me at all. I used to walk down to where the bus stopped Over the hill where the

37

Vln. I

Vln. II

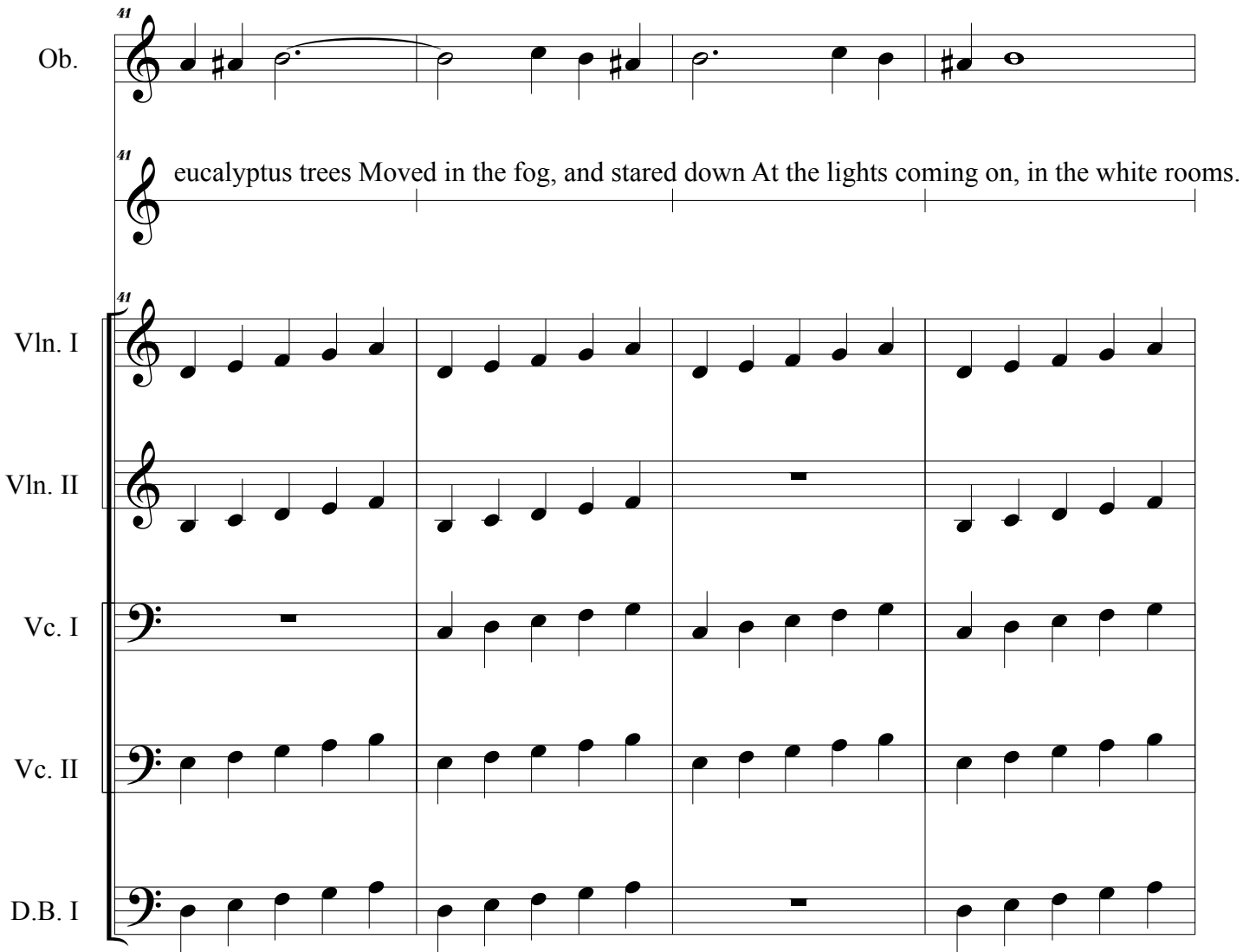
Vc. I

Vc. II

D.B. I

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for the piece 'The Musicians Wife'. The page contains six staves of music. The top staff is for the Oboe (Ob.), followed by the vocal line with lyrics. Below the vocal line are five instrumental staves: Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Violin I (Vc. I), Violin II (Vc. II), and Double Bass I (D.B. I). The score is marked with a rehearsal sign '37' at the beginning of each staff. The vocal line includes the lyrics: 'You never looked at me at all. I used to walk down to where the bus stopped Over the hill where the'. The instrumental parts consist of various rhythmic patterns and melodic lines. The page ends with a double bar line and repeat signs.

The Musicians Wife



41

Ob.

41

eucalyptus trees Moved in the fog, and stared down At the lights coming on, in the white rooms.

41

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vc. I

Vc. II

D.B. I

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for the piece 'The Musicians Wife'. The page contains six staves of music. The top staff is for the Oboe (Ob.), followed by a vocal line with lyrics. Below the vocal line are five instrumental staves: Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Violin I (Vc. I), Violin II (Vc. II), and Double Bass I (D.B. I). The music is written in a key with one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The vocal line has lyrics: 'eucalyptus trees Moved in the fog, and stared down At the lights coming on, in the white rooms.' The instrumental parts feature a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the lower strings and a more melodic line in the upper strings. There are some rests in the Vln. II and D.B. I parts during the second and third measures.

The Musicians Wife

45

Ob.

Repeat 4 times

45

And always, when I came back to my sister's I used to get out the records

45

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vc. I

Vc. II

D.B. I

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for the piece 'The Musicians Wife'. The page contains six staves of music. The top staff is for the Oboe (Ob.), starting at measure 45 with a rest followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a half note B4. Below this staff, the instruction 'Repeat 4 times' is written. The second staff is for the vocal line, starting at measure 45 with the lyrics 'And always, when I came back to my sister's I used to get out the records'. The remaining four staves are for the string section: Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Violin Cello I (Vc. I), Violin Cello II (Vc. II), and Double Bass I (D.B. I). All string parts begin at measure 45 with a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The Vln. I part has a rest in the second measure, and the Vc. I part has a rest in the third measure.

The Musicians Wife

49

Ob.

49

you made The year before all your terrible trouble, The records the critics praised and nobody bought

49

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vc. I

Vc. II

D.B. I

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for the piece 'The Musicians Wife'. The page is numbered 49 in the top left corner. It features six staves: Ob. (Oboe), Vln. I (Violin I), Vln. II (Violin II), Vc. I (Violoncello I), Vc. II (Violoncello II), and D.B. I (Double Bass I). The vocal line is positioned between the Oboe and Violin I staves. The lyrics for the vocal line are: 'you made The year before all your terrible trouble, The records the critics praised and nobody bought'. The score includes various musical notations such as treble and bass clefs, time signatures, and dynamic markings. A double bar line is present at the beginning of the vocal line and the Oboe line. The Oboe part starts with a whole rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note C5. The vocal line begins with a quarter note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note C5. The Violin I and II parts play a similar melodic line, while the Violoncello I and II parts play a lower, more rhythmic line. The Double Bass I part plays a similar rhythmic line to the Violoncello parts.

The Musicians Wife

53

Ob.

53

That are almost worn out now. Repeat 4 times Now, sometimes I wake in

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vc. I

Vc. II

D.B. I

The musical score is arranged in a system with six staves. The Oboe (Ob.) staff is at the top, followed by the vocal line, Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola I (Vc. I), Viola II (Vc. II), and Double Bass I (D.B. I) at the bottom. The vocal line includes the lyrics: "That are almost worn out now. Repeat 4 times Now, sometimes I wake in". The instrumental parts consist of rhythmic patterns of eighth and sixteenth notes. The Oboe part has a rest in the first and last measures of the system. The vocal line has a rest in the first measure and a repeat sign over the next four measures. The Violin I and II parts play a steady eighth-note pattern. The Viola I and II parts play a steady eighth-note pattern, with the second Viola part having a rest in the second measure. The Double Bass I part plays a steady eighth-note pattern.

The Musicians Wife

57

Ob.

57

the night And hear the sound of dead leaves Against the shutters. And then a distant Music stars, a

57

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vc. I

Vc. II

D.B. I

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for the piece 'The Musicians Wife'. The page contains six staves of music. The top staff is for the Oboe (Ob.), followed by a vocal line with lyrics. Below the vocal line are staves for Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Violin I (Vc. I), Violin II (Vc. II), and Double Bass I (D.B. I). The music is in 3/4 time and features a melodic line in the oboe and violin I parts, with a supporting bass line in the violin II, viola, and double bass parts. The vocal line has lyrics: 'the night And hear the sound of dead leaves Against the shutters. And then a distant Music stars, a'. The score includes a first ending bracket and a repeat sign. The number 57 is written above the first measure of each staff.

The Musicians Wife

61

Ob.

61 music out of an abyss, And it is dawn before I sleep again.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vc. I

Vc. II

D.B. I

The Musicians Wife

Gradually get faster and faster  
until end

65

Ob.

65

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vc. I

Vc. II

D.B. I

Detailed description: This is a musical score for a section titled 'The Musicians Wife'. The score is for six instruments: Oboe (Ob.), Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Violoncello I (Vc. I), Violoncello II (Vc. II), and Double Bass I (D.B. I). The music begins at measure 65. The Oboe part features a melodic line with a half note followed by a dotted half note, then rests, and finally a descending eighth-note scale. The Violin I part plays a steady eighth-note pattern. The Violin II part plays a similar eighth-note pattern but includes a fermata in the second measure. The Violoncello I and Violoncello II parts play a steady eighth-note pattern. The Double Bass I part plays a steady eighth-note pattern. The score is divided into measures by vertical bar lines, and there are fermatas in measures 66 and 67 for the Violin II, Violoncello I, and Violoncello II parts.



The Musicians Wife

70

Ob.

70

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vc. I

Vc. II

D.B. I

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for the piece 'The Musicians Wife'. The page is numbered 70 in the top left corner. It features six staves of music. The top staff is for the Oboe (Ob.), which begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The second staff is empty. The third staff is for Violin I (Vln. I), the fourth for Violin II (Vln. II), the fifth for Violin I (Vc. I), the sixth for Violin II (Vc. II), and the seventh for Double Bass I (D.B. I). All string parts (Vln. I, Vln. II, Vc. I, Vc. II, and D.B. I) are written in bass clef and play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The Oboe part plays a melodic line with some rests and a fermata over a note in the second measure.

The Musicians Wife

74

Ob.

74

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vc. I

Vc. II

D.B. I

Detailed description: This is a page of a musical score for the piece 'The Musicians Wife'. The page contains six staves of music. The top staff is for the Oboe (Ob.), starting at measure 74. It features a melodic line with a half note, a quarter note, a quarter note with a sharp sign, a quarter note, a half note, and a half note with a slur. The second staff is empty, also starting at measure 74. The third staff is for Violin I (Vln. I), the fourth for Violin II (Vln. II), the fifth for Violoncello I (Vc. I), and the sixth for Double Bass I (D.B. I). All these lower staves play a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes, starting on a G4 and moving up stepwise in each measure.

78  $\text{♩} = \text{c. } 450$

Ob.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vc. I

Vc. II

Vc. III

D.B. I

D.B. II

# The Road Not Taken

## III

Adagio ♩ = 30

Musical score for "The Road Not Taken" III, featuring Voice, Vln. I, Vln. II, Cello II, Vc. III, and D.B. II. The score is in 4/4 time and Adagio tempo (♩ = 30). The key signature is one sharp (F#).

The score consists of six staves:

- Voice:** Treble clef, 4/4 time. The staff is empty.
- Vln. I:** Treble clef, 4/4 time. The staff is empty until measure 5, where it begins with a half note G4, marked *p dolce*. Measure 6 has a half note A4 with a sharp sign (#).
- Vln. II:** Treble clef, 4/4 time. The staff is empty until measure 4, where it begins with a half note G4, marked *p dolce*. It continues with half notes G4, A4, B4, and C5 in measures 5, 6, and 7.
- Cello II:** Bass clef, 4/4 time. The staff is empty until measure 4, where it begins with a half note G2, marked *p dolce*. It continues with half notes G2, A2, B2, and C3 in measures 5, 6, and 7.
- Vc. III:** Bass clef, 4/4 time. The staff is empty until measure 6, where it begins with a half note G2, marked *p dolce*. Measure 7 has a half note A2 with a sharp sign (#).
- D.B. II:** Bass clef, 4/4 time. The staff is empty until measure 2, where it begins with a half note G2, marked *p dolce*. Measure 5 has a half note A2, and measure 7 has a half note B2.

musical score for five instruments: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vc. II, Vc. III, and D.B. II. The score is written in treble clef for the violins and bass clef for the violas and double bass. The Vln. I part begins with a dynamic marking of *p* and a hairpin crescendo. The Vln. II part features a melodic line with a slur. The Vc. II and Vc. III parts play a similar melodic line with a slur. The D.B. II part provides a harmonic foundation with a series of notes. The score is divided into two systems by a double bar line.

Two Roads divered in a yellow wood  
and sorry I could not travel both  
And be one traveler, long I stood  
And looked down one as far as I could  
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

15

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vc. II

Vc. III

D.B. II

The musical score consists of five staves. The first staff is a treble clef with a whole note chord of G4, B4, and D5. The second staff (Vln. I) has a treble clef and contains a sequence of notes: G4, B4, D5, G4, B4, D5, G4, B4, D5. The third staff (Vln. II) has a treble clef and contains a sequence of notes: G4, B4, D5, G4, B4, D5, G4, B4, D5. The fourth staff (Vc. II) has a bass clef and contains a sequence of notes: G2, B2, D3, G2, B2, D3, G2, B2, D3. The fifth staff (Vc. III) has a bass clef and contains a sequence of notes: G2, B2, D3, G2, B2, D3, G2, B2, D3. The sixth staff (D.B. II) has a bass clef and contains a sequence of notes: G2, B2, D3, G2, B2, D3, G2, B2, D3.

then took the other, as just as fair,  
And having perhaps the better claim,  
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;  
Though as for that the passing there  
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay  
In leaves no step had trodden back  
Oh, I kept the first for another day  
Yet knowing how way leads on to way  
I doubted if I should ever come back

The musical score consists of five staves. The top staff is a vocal line with lyrics. The second staff is for Violin I (Vln. I), the third for Violin II (Vln. II), the fourth for Violoncello II (Vc. II), the fifth for Violoncello III (Vc. III), and the sixth for Double Bass II (D.B. II). The music is in a common time signature. The vocal line has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The instrumental staves have various clefs: Vln. I (treble), Vln. II (treble), Vc. II (bass), Vc. III (bass), and D.B. II (bass). The lyrics are aligned with the vocal line.

I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I -  
I took the one less traveled by,  
and that has made all the difference.

29

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vc. II

Vc. III

D.B. II

*ppp*

*ppp*

*ppp*

*ppp*

*ppp*

*ppp*

The musical score consists of six staves. The top staff is a treble clef with a 29 above it. The second staff is Vln. I, treble clef, with a 29 above it. The third staff is Vln. II, treble clef. The fourth staff is Vc. II, bass clef. The fifth staff is Vc. III, bass clef. The sixth staff is D.B. II, bass clef. The music is in 3/4 time and features a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first measure contains a whole note F#4 in Vln. I and a whole note F#2 in D.B. II. The second measure contains a whole note G#4 in Vln. I and a whole note G#2 in D.B. II. The third measure contains a whole note A#4 in Vln. I and a whole note A#2 in D.B. II. The fourth measure contains a whole note B4 in Vln. I and a whole note B2 in D.B. II. The fifth measure contains a whole note C5 in Vln. I and a whole note C3 in D.B. II. The sixth measure contains a whole note D5 in Vln. I and a whole note D3 in D.B. II. The dynamic marking *ppp* is present at the end of each staff.



Score

# Lessons

Solo Speaker

IV

Nick Vecchio

Speaker

There are who teach only the sweet lessons of peace and safety; But I teach  
 Lessons of war and death to those I love, That they readily meet invasions, when they come.

The musical notation consists of two staves. The top staff begins with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The bottom staff begins with a bass clef and a 4/4 time signature. Both staves have a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The music is written in a simple, rhythmic style with vertical bar lines and stems. The lyrics are placed above and below the staves.

# Stronger Lessons

Bass Trombone and Oboe  
Have separate attached graphic scores

V

The conductor dictates when the piece starts and ends. The conductor is also responsible for flipping their pages as well as placing the second page when they see fit.

Speaker

Have you learned lessons only of those who admired you and were tender with you,  
 and stood aside for you?  
 Have you not learned great lessons of those who rejected you, braced themselves against you?  
 Or who treated you with contempt, or disputed passage with you?

The musical notation consists of two staves. The top staff begins with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The bottom staff begins with a bass clef and a 4/4 time signature. Both staves have a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The music is written in a simple, rhythmic style with vertical bar lines and stems. The lyrics are placed above and below the staves.

# Stronger Lessons

A musical notation showing a chord with a '2' above it. The notes are G#4, A4, B4, and C5, with a sharp sign to the left of the G#4 note.

A musical notation showing a chord with a sharp sign to the left. The notes are G#4, A4, B4, and C5, with a sharp sign to the left of the G#4 note.

A musical score for a piece titled "Stronger Lessons". It features two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The treble staff contains a melody with a slur over the first four notes (G#4, A4, B4, C5) and a fermata over the final note (C5). The bass staff contains a bass line with notes G#3, A3, B3, and C4. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

A musical notation showing a chord with a sharp sign to the left. The notes are G#4, A4, B4, and C5, with a sharp sign to the left of the G#4 note.

# Oh Me! Oh Life!

## VI

Gradually increase dynamic starting very quietly  
and ending as loud as possible

The musical score consists of five staves, each with a dynamic marking 's' at the beginning. The staves are labeled on the left as Ob., Vln. I, Vln. II, Vc. II, and Vc. IV. Each staff contains a series of eight measures, with a small black square in the middle of each measure. The Vln. I staff is empty. The Vc. II and Vc. IV staves are grouped together in a single system.

Ob. *s*

Vln. I *s*

Vln. II *s*

Vc. II *s*

Vc. IV *s*

Oboe

Voice

Vln. I *pp*

Vln. II

Cello II *pp*

Vc. IV

Ob. *pp*

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vc. II

Vc. IV

O me! O life! of the questions of these recurring, Of the endless trains of

Ob. *ff*

*ff* the faithless, of cities fill'd with the foolish, Of Myself forever reproaching myself, (for who more

Vln. I *ff*

Vln. II *pp*

Vc. II

Vc. IV

15

Ob.

foolish than I, and who more faithless?) Of eyes that vainly crave the light, of the objects mean of

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vc. II

Vc. IV

*pp*

19

Ob.

19 the struggle ever renew'd, Of the poor results of all, of the plodding and sordid crowds I see around

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vc. II

Vc. IV

229

Ob.

me of the empty and useless years of the rest, with the rest of me intertwined,

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vc. II

Vc. IV

230

Ob.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vc. II

Vc. IV

30

Ob.

The question, O Me! so sad recurring - What good amid these, O me, O Life?

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vc. II

Vc. IV

30

Ob.

*fff*

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vc. II

Vc. IV

*fff*

*fff*

*fff*



Ob. <sup>ss</sup>  $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$  (Solo)  
Answer: That you are here -  
that life exists and identity,  
That powerful play goes on,  
and you may contribute a verse

Vln. I <sup>ss</sup>  $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$

Vln. II <sup>ss</sup>  $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$

Vc. II <sup>ss</sup>  $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$

Vc. IV <sup>ss</sup>  $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$   $\text{3}$

Detailed description: This is a musical score for a section of a symphony. It features five staves: Oboe (Ob.), Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Violoncello II (Vc. II), and Violoncello IV (Vc. IV). The Oboe part is marked 'Solo' and includes the lyrics: 'Answer: That you are here - that life exists and identity, That powerful play goes on, and you may contribute a verse'. The string parts (Vln. I, Vln. II, Vc. II, Vc. IV) are playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in groups of three, marked with '3' above each group. The score is in a key with one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The dynamics are marked 'ss' (sforzando) at the beginning of each staff. The music concludes with a double bar line.