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Voyages Through The Inland Sea

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for
Donna Harler-Smith
and
Wes Reist

Voyages Through The Inland Sea

poems: Ted Kooser

Randall Snyder

1977 revised 2006

Prelude

Soprano
ah ee oh lah lee

Clarinet in Bb
fp mf > fp ppp f pp mp

4 *a tempo*
dah 3 dee 3 lah

6 *mf accel.....*
du ah dee ah lee ah lu dee ah lah ee ah

9 *mf >*
lee 3 du ah lee ee dee ee ah

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Postcards 1

♩. = 66

13 Hel - lo Han-na

18 How are you get-ting long Al vah is

22 com ing o - ver to - day with a bag of ap-ples I

27 wish you were here now good-bye.

30 Dear Vel - ma hope you are

ff *p* *f* *p* *fp* *p*

f *p* *f* *mp*

pp *ff* *mf*

p *mf* *pp* *p* *fp*

ff *p*

34

hav - ing a fine time en - joy life

Detailed description: This system contains measures 34 through 37. The vocal line is on a treble clef staff with a 2/4 time signature. The lyrics are "hav - ing a fine time en - joy life". The piano accompaniment is on a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). It features a triplet of eighth notes in measure 34, followed by a series of chords and eighth notes. Dynamic markings include *fp*, *mf*, *f*, and *mp*. There are also slurs and accents over the piano part.

38

while you can for when you get old you can't

Detailed description: This system contains measures 38 through 42. The vocal line is on a treble clef staff with a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are "while you can for when you get old you can't". The piano accompaniment is on a grand staff. It features a triplet of eighth notes in measure 38, followed by a series of chords and eighth notes. Dynamic markings include *pp* and *ff*. There are also slurs and accents over the piano part.

43

hap - py new year to you from - grand pa

Detailed description: This system contains measures 43 through 47. The vocal line is on a treble clef staff with a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are "hap - py new year to you from - grand pa". The piano accompaniment is on a grand staff. It features a triplet of eighth notes in measure 43, followed by a series of chords and eighth notes. Dynamic markings include *f*, *p*, *mp*, and *pp*. There are also slurs and accents over the piano part.

48

Detailed description: This system contains measures 48 through 51. The vocal line is on a treble clef staff with a 2/4 time signature. The piano accompaniment is on a grand staff. It features a triplet of eighth notes in measure 48, followed by a series of chords and eighth notes. Dynamic markings include *f* and *ff*. There are also slurs and accents over the piano part.

52

I wish you girls had been o - ver to hear the

Detailed description: This system contains measures 52 through 55. The vocal line is on a treble clef staff with a 2/4 time signature. The lyrics are "I wish you girls had been o - ver to hear the". The piano accompaniment is on a grand staff. It features a triplet of eighth notes in measure 52, followed by a series of chords and eighth notes. Dynamic markings include *p*, *f*, and *p*. There are also slurs and accents over the piano part.

55

sing - ing this eve - ning it sure was dan - dy

ff *p* *f* *mf* *p*

59

but I sup - pose you do not care to come to

fp 3 5:4

63

Ben - nett at night a -

ff *subpp* *f*

68

gain

p

♩ = 112

In The Laundromat

69 *mp* *p*

Our lives are brief as dimes

ff mp f > p mf p pp <

3

74 *f*

dit bit dit a wash

f p f

3 5 3

77 *mp* *f* *p rit.....*

of o - dors oh and a

p mf pp

3 7

a tempo

80 *mf* *mf* *p*

rinse ss ss of fal - ling lea - ves

mf p ff mf < f mp pp

3 3

6

♩. = 66

Postcards 2

84

5:3

This pic-ture is of the

90

hog-house here we have been hav ing a rain this mor ning and fore-noon

95

but I guess it is a-bout o- ver now and din-ner will soon be rea-dy

100

Yes-ter-day there was a

106

man sup-posed to be a pa - tient here found dead in the hog - yard

110

had hung him-self wirh a wire__ a- bout Thurs day

p *mf* *> p* *ff* 5

114

I got my hair cut this fore - noon and - day a-ter tomor-row is shave day but

fp *mf*

119

I won't get shaved un - til next Thurs - day

p *f* 7:6

125

once in two weeks is all I get

ff *fp*

Cadenza

129

fff *ff* 5

131

ffff *subpp* *ff* *pp* *ff* *pp*

Cherry County, Nebraska

138 ♩ = 60

Macabre

144 *p* *pp* *p*

Eight crows by the road eat-ing a dog Their wings wash

147 *> mf* *mf*

up in _____ the wind _____ like sur-geon's

151 *p* *f* *ff*

hands ha _____ their beaks

153 *mf* *fff* shout *p*

bee 3 - - - LOOK DIR-TY! to the

156 *Segue*

dri-vers too far off to see

mf *pp* *p*

Field Studies

161 *Child-like* *mf*

co-yo-te is white and gray - he runs a - way Owl

mf *p* *f* *pp*

165 *p* *mf* *p*

is brown and black he cir-cles back Mouse mouse is the color

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

168 *stage whisper*

of a stare he is not there

10

♩. = 66

Postcards 3

170

p *fp* *ff*

175

p

The crows are get ting my tur- key eggs so bad I don't be- lieve I will

179

have an - y to sell Lah ah I hope you

f

184

find some last I heard of

mf *fp* *ff* *p*

189

you were at some church oh yes in Par is

f *pp* *f* *p*

7:6

194

f *pp*

ah

7:6 *f* *pp*

200

Slower *accel.....* *a tempo*

won der where you are now

f *pp* *mp* *f*

205

5:3 5 7:6 3

Hav - en't time for a let - ter but will write a few lines an - y - way Say would you

p *mf* *pp*

209

3 3 6 3

cop - y off that Ar - kan - sas song that Cloud used to sing up at the

fp *f* *mf* *pp*

213

3

hos - pi - tal and played on that gui - tar

f *p* *ff*

216

we have a lit-tle South ern nurse here from Ar-kan-saw and I want to

p *fp*

220

tease her with it la da yah

f *pp* Segue

Arkansas Song (interpolation)

224

♩. = 60 Jazz scat-singing

dit dah la bit doo vot deh

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

230

dit dit dit dit dit dit dit la

f *p* *mf* *pp*

235 *f* *mf*

ah kah

f *p* *mf*

238 *p* *mf* *f* *p*

roo — koo — too — too — teh — voo dit deh ah — teh ah bit

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

Slower accel..... a tempo

242 *f* *p* *fp*

tah — kit tah — teh — key — pah

f *p* *fp*

246 *ff* operatic

ah — oh — ee

ff

250 *fff*

oo doo wee dit vee dot dit bit dot

fff

The Very Old

254 *p* *Plaintive* $\text{♩} = 88$

La ah

p *mf* *pp*

vib *non vib*

261 *fp* *mf* *p*

gin - (g) ga ah nah ah sah ah

mf *p* *mf* *ppp* *mf* *p < > f > mp*

267 *mf* *pp* $\text{♩} = 66$

meh ah The ver-y old are for-e-ver

mf > p *mf* *pp* *mp > pp* *p* *mf*

271

hurt - ing them selves burn - ing their fin - gers on skil - lets fall - ing loose - ly as

p *ppp* *mp* *p*

273

trees and break - ing their hips with muff - led ex - plo - sions of bone

mf

275

Down the block they are wheel - ed in and out of our sight for years at a time

p *pp*

278

to make con - ver - sa - tion the neigh - bors ask if they are still a -

p *mf* *>p*

280

live Then ear - ly one morn - ing through our kit - chen win

pp *mp* *p*

282

dows we see them a - gain first one and then a -

mp *p*

284

no - ther out in their gar - dens on crutch - es and canes per - en - ni - al

f

rit......

286

check - ing their gaug - es for rain

sub ppp