



TOIL and TROUBLE

A Short Suite for String Orchestra

Bradd Parton

INSTRUMENTATION

8 – Violin I
8 – Violin II
5 – Viola
5 – Cello
5 – Contrabass

Toil and Trouble is a three-movement suite for string orchestra where students explore minor tonality, glissando, dissonance, trilling, and *col legno* technique. Eerie, yet very melodic, this suite is perfect for a change of pace during your program.



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PROGRAM NOTES

"Double, double toil and trouble: Fire burn, and cauldron bubble.
By the pricking of my thumbs, Something wicked this way comes."

– William Shakespeare's *Macbeth*

PERFORMANCE NOTES

Toil and Trouble is a miniature suite that offers many opportunities to teach or reinforce various musical skills. The first movement, *Eye of Newt*, is driven by a simple dotted quarter, eighth rhythm in the lower strings while the upper strings provide contrast through *pizzicato* or a simple *glissando* melody in the key of E Minor. At the beginning, *glissandi* are ascending and played with the third finger to facilitate first position. Later *glissandi* use the first finger and descend into first position.

The second movement, *Toe of Frog*, moves to the key of A Minor and finds the melody in the cello and bass while the upper strings perform *col legno* on D. The 2nd violins and viola section then take over the melody. The trills at letter B should be fast and of equal volume to the low strings' ostinato.

The third and final movement, *Wool of Bat*, offers a chance to showcase dynamic contrast as well as dissonance while aggressively pushing forward in a return to E Minor. The pitch of B-flat can be found in all parts, making this movement a great opportunity to introduce/reinforce the fingering. The end of the movement recalls the first movement's *glissando* on top of the second movement's *col legno* and darker melody restatement.

ABOUT THE COMPOSER

Bradd Parton is a nationally-certified teacher with over twenty years of classroom experience. He has taught music in various forms from the kindergarten to collegiate levels. Mr. Parton currently serves as a middle school orchestra director in Spartanburg (SC) School District One as well as on the adjunct faculty at Presbyterian College. He received a bachelor's degree from Furman University and a master's degree from the University of South Carolina. In addition to music, Mr. Parton is also an active author and illustrator having published over two dozen books for children. He has presented his Alpha-Sketch educational art programs at schools and conferences across the Southeast.

TOIL and TROUBLE

for String Orchestra

Bradd Parton

I. EYE of NEWT

Moderato ♩ = 120

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Contrabass

13

A

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Vcl.

Bass

25

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Vcl.

Bass

musical notation including notes, rests, and dynamic markings (mf, mp, f, pizz, arco)

37 **B**

Vln. I arco 3 *mf*

Vln. II pizz.

Vla. pizz.

Vcl. *mp*

Bass *mp*

49 **C**

Vln. I 3 4 *mp* arco

Vln. II *mp*

Vla. (G string) arco 1 *f*

Vcl. *mf*

Bass *mf*

61

Vln. I (A string) 1 *f*

Vln. II (G string) 1 *f*

Vla. 1 *f* pizz.

Vcl. *f* pizz.

Bass *f*

II. TOE of FROG
Pesante ♩ = 108

3

Violin I *mf* col legno

Violin II *mf* col legno

Viola *mf* col legno

Cello *mf* arco

Contrabass *mf* arco

7

Vln. I *mp* arco

Vln. II *mf* arco

Vla. *mf* arco

Vcl. *mp* V

Bass *mp* V

A

13

Vln. I

Vln. II 4

Vla. 4

Vcl. V

Bass V

B

Vln. I *mf*
 Vln. II *mf*
 Vla. *mf*
 Vcl. *mf*
 Bass *mf*

C

col legno

Vln. I *f*
 Vln. II *f*
 Vla. *f*
 Vcl. *f*
 Bass *f*

31

Vln. I *p*
 Vln. II *p*
 Vla. *p*
 Vcl. *mf* *mp* *p*
 Bass *mf* *mp* *p*

III. WOOL of BAT
Allegro ♩ = 132

5

musical score for Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Vcl., and Bass, measures 1 through 13.

Measures 1-4: Dynamics include *p*, *mf*, *f*, and *ff*. Performance markings include *div.* and *unis.*.

Measure 5: Section marker **A** with *unis.* marking.

Measures 6-12: Dynamics include *mf*, *f*, *ff*, and *mp*. Performance markings include *div.* and *unis.*.

Measure 13: Section marker **B** with *mf* marking.

19

19

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vcl.

Bass

mf

mf

C

C

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vcl.

Bass

f

f

31

D

31

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vcl.

Bass

f

mp

mp

mp

mp

[illegible]

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

Double Bass

ff

f

f

ff

ff

ff



