

Debut Strings Orchestra Series

Top Dog

By R. Scott Whittington

Grade 0.5

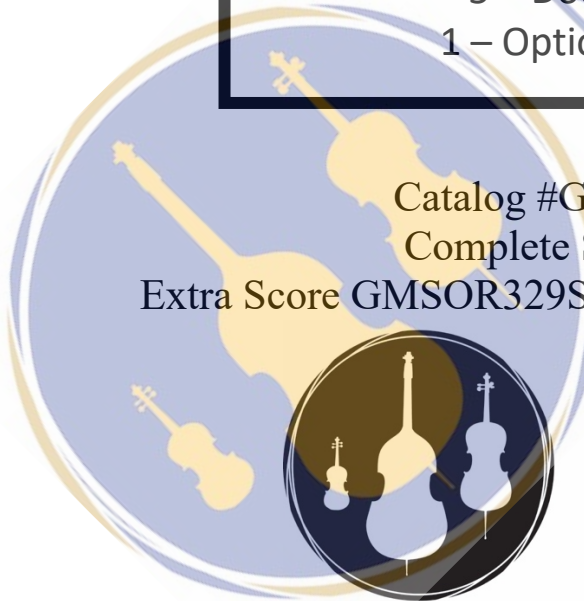
Complete String Orchestra Instrumentation

1 – Full Conductor Score
8 – Violin 1
8 – Violin 2
3 – Violin 3 (Viola TC)
5 – Viola
5 – Cello
5 – Double Bass
1 – Optional Piano

Catalog #GMSOR329

Complete Set \$50.00

Extra Score GMSOR329SC \$8.00, Parts \$3.00 each



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About the Composition:

Top Dog is a whimsical piece targeted at beginning string players. It begins with all players performing in unison to build confidence and create a solid ensemble sound. It then introduces some very basic harmony, providing a series of satisfying cadences. The range is 7 notes (D, E, F#, G, A, B, C#) in the violins and viola, and spans from low A (G string) to B (A string) in the cellos. Open strings are incorporated frequently to assist in intonation.

Violin 2 and viola are scored together, as are cello and bass. A simple piano part is provided for rehearsal purposes. Suggested bowings are included.

Rehearsal Notes

1. All quarter notes should be played short and crisp, except for the section from B to C, which should be more legato.
2. Performers should be encouraged to observe dynamic markings throughout the piece.
3. Top Dog provides an opportunity to contrast a shorter détaché bow stroke with a longer legato bow stroke.

About the Composer:



R. Scott Whittington is a graduate of the Faculty of Music at the University of Toronto, where he pursued studies in orchestration, arranging, conducting and music pedagogy. He has been actively engaged in multiple fields of adult and youth education for over 30 years. Scott is a widely published composer in the United States (Wingert-Jones, Tempo, Neil A. Kjos, Keiser-Southern, Grand Mesa Strings, FJH, Ludwig Masters, MSB), with over 140 compositions and numerous commissions to his credit. He writes for full symphony orchestra, string orchestra, concert band, choir, chamber ensembles and the stage. His work spans the range from student material for the education market to professional concert repertoire. Scott's writing has a fresh, contemporary feel to it, with a leaning toward strong melody and catchy rhythmic content. He is a member of the Canadian League of Composers and a member of SOCAN.

String Editor: Sarah Siegler

Top Dog

R. Scott Whittington
(SOCAN)

Allegro moderato $\text{♩} = 120$

Musical score for measures 1-6. The score is for Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, and Piano (Optional). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is Allegro moderato with a quarter note equal to 120 beats per minute. The dynamic marking is *mf* (mezzo-forte). The score shows the first six measures of the piece.

Musical score for measures 7-12. The score is for Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, and Piano (Optional). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is Allegro moderato with a quarter note equal to 120 beats per minute. The dynamic marking is *p* (piano). The score shows measures 7 through 12, with a repeat sign at the beginning of measure 9. A large watermark for 'GRAND MESA STRINGS' is visible over the score.

2
Top Dog

17 Gently

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
D.B.
Pno.

f *p*

13 14 15 16 17 18 19

25

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
D.B.
Pno.

p pizz. arco *p* arco *p* arco *p*

20 21 22 23 24 25 26

3
Top Dog

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
D.B.
Pno.

Musical score for measures 27-32. The score is for a string quartet and piano. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#). The time signature is 4/4. The dynamics are marked as *f* (forte) and *p* (piano). The piano part is marked *arco*. The strings play a rhythmic pattern of quarter notes and eighth notes. The piano part provides harmonic support with chords and single notes.

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
D.B.
Pno.

Musical score for measures 33-37. The score is for a string quartet and piano. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#). The time signature is 4/4. The dynamics are marked as *f* (forte). The piano part is marked *arco*. The strings play a rhythmic pattern of quarter notes and eighth notes. The piano part provides harmonic support with chords and single notes.

33

34

35

36

37

4
Top Dog

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Pno.

pizz.

pp
pizz.

pp
pizz.

1

pp
pizz.

pp
pizz.

pp

38 39 40 41 42

