

A Rabbit Hole*

**of limited consequence
for amplified strings*

Ad lib.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

(mumble and whisper) Respect your hair.
-Bob Marley

(mumble and whisper) I cannot believe that the inscrutable universe turns on an
axis of suffering; surely the strange beauty of the world
must somewhere rest on pure joy. -Louise Bogan

III punta d'arco *gliss.* ord. II

sfz *p* *pp* *mf* *n* *pp* *n* *sfz*

pizz. *pp*

(mumble and whisper) Praised be the fathomless universe, for life and
joy, and for objects and knowledge curious...
-Walt Whitman

//

A **Largo** ♩=60

(clearly and slowly)

Vln.I Once you make a decision, the universe
conspires to make it happen.
-Ralph Waldo Emerson

bell

mf

Vla.

Vln.II

Vc.

p *mf* *n* *sfz* *arco* *sfz*

//

Vln.I

*hum with an earthy,
growly tone- approximate pitches*

p *f*

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

sfz *sfz* *f* *sfz* *sfz* *f* *sfz* *sfz* *f* *sfz*

III *sfz* *f* I *sfz*

(doubtful) I think- *(louder)* I-

Vln. I *sfz* *ppp* *p*

Vln. II *p*

Vla. *f* *pp* *f* (conversationally)
-and I'm not so sure about the universe.

Vc. (conversationally)
Two things are infinite; the universe
and human stupidity..
sfz

16 **B**

Vln. I *p* non vib.,
very thin sound

Vln. II (smug)
-Albert Einstien
pizz. *ff* arco non vib. *ppp* *p*

Vla. *ffz* *mf*

Vc. 3 *sfz* wind chimes *fp*

20 *al tallone* *ord.* *ffz* *3* *mf*

Vln. I *ord.* *mf* *ff* *p*

Vln. II (as if an antiphon)
I think-
mf *ff* *p*

Vla. bass drum *sfz* *fp* non vib. *fp* sul pont. *n*

Vc. *f* *ppp* *mf*

25 *sul pont.* *non vib. ord.* 3

Vln. I *p* *sfz* *pp* *f*

Vln. II (whisper, several times in variation) (mumble and whisper)
-Sir Arthur Eddington, Sir Arthur, Arthur Eddington....

Vla. (with joy)
It is stranger than we CAN imagine....

Vc. (like an incantation, slowly) (whisper)
Not only... not only is the universe.... not only stranger than we imagine.... It is stranger than we CAN imagine....

27 *pizz. (quasi-guitarra)* *arco* **C** simple, lyric

Vln. I *p* *mp*

Vln. II *mp*

Vla. *scratch tone* *sfz* *mp*

Vc. (an echo)
imagine....

II

III

30 *flautando*

Vln. I *mf*

Vln. II *mf* *pp*

Vla. *mf*

Vc.

(quickly and statesmanlike)
My heart, which is so full to overflowing, has often been solaced
and refreshed by music when sick and weary...

D $\text{♩}=60$
simple, lyric

33

Vln. I *mp* *p* *mf*

Vln. II *mf* *mf* *mf*

Vc. *mf* *mf* *mf*

(proud) Dr. Martin Luther King... thank you. (to yourself)

pizz. arco pizz. arco al tallone

(continue underneath your speaking line)

39

Vln. I *p* *mf*

Vln. II *f* *mp*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

(quietly) Music was my refuge. I would crawl into the space between

E Tempo primo $\text{♩}=68$

43

Vln. I *mf* *pp*

Vln. II *pp*

Vc. *mf* *f*

the notes...

(matter-of-fact) Maya Angelou...

(completing Viola line) and turn my back to loneliness...

[illegible][illegible]

G **Moderato** $\text{♩} = 98$

pp (same pitch)

Vln. I

God is app - re - hend - ed through i - mag - in - a - tion,

pp (same pitch)

Vln. II

God is app - re - hend - ed through i - mag - in - a - tion.

pp (same pitch)

Vla.

God is app - re - hend - ed through i - mag - in - a - tion,

pizz.

Vc.

mf

mp

59

Vln. I

dic - tion, hav - ing no di - men - sion, no dur - a - tion, hav - ing no di - men - sion, no dur - a - tion, ob - vi - ous - ly

Vln. II

hav - ing no di - men - sion, no dur - a - tion, no di - men - sion, no dur - a - tion, Most - ly

Vla.

Vc.

arco

pizz.

mf

sfz

(speaking tone, patronizing)

(speaking tone, correcting)

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

(after reflection)
Particles... are just *shaumkommen*... that's Schrodinger...

H

pizz. *mf*

f

Ha!

pizz. *mf*

pizz. (l.h.) arco

pizz. *mf*

arco

pizz.

pizz. *mf*

pizz.

69

Vln. I

Vln. I

Vla.

Vc.

(to Violin II)
Appearances...

(to Violin I)
shaumkommen?

arco

fp

I accel.

pizz. *mp*

f pizz. *mp*

Oh!

pizz. *mf*

arco *mp*

pizz. *mf*

72

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

pp

God is app - re - hend - ed through i - mag - in - a - tion,

arco

pizz.

mf

arco

74

J Allegro ♩=108

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ppp

mp

mp

mp

in - tu - i - tion,

con - tra - dic - tion

con - tra - dic - tion

arco

pizz.

mp

arco

pizz.

arco

pizz.

arco

78

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

(with more intensity)
shaumkommen...

Respect...

(with more intensity)
Einstein...

pizz.

arco

pizz.

arco

82 **L**

Vln. I *f* > > > arco *pp*

Vln. II *f* > > > arco *pp*

Vla. pizz. arco pizz.

Vc. pizz. *mf* arco *mf*

Un - i verse...

87

Vln. I *f* *p* 3

Vln. II *f* *p* 3

Vla. pizz. arco pizz. arco arco

Vc. pizz. arco pizz. arco

92 **M**

Vln. I *ff* *pp* *ff* *pp* in - tu - i - tion!

Vln. II *pp* *ff* *pp* Find if!

Vla. *pp* *ff* *pp* When you free!

Vc. *mf* *ff* *pp* Fall

Hmph! Ha!

96

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

arco

pp

mf

mf

cantabile

Mu - sic!

God!

ta

tsk

9

101

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

fp

mf

f

(smoothly and coordinated with cello)

Lao Tsu says, "In this world, there is nothing softer or thinner than

(smoothly and coordinated with violin II)

Lao Tsu says, "In this world, there is nothing softer or thinner than

pizz.

arco

arco

pizz.

3

107

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

fp

mf

mp

mf

water. Yet to compel the hard and unyielding, it has no equal. That the weak overcomes the strong, this everyone knows...

water. Yet to compel the hard and unyielding, it has no equal. That the weak overcomes the strong, this everyone knows...

N

pizz.

pizz.

113

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

When! When you!

mf free, fall

(angry)
Music is nothing... but unconscious arithmetic...

pizz. arco pizz. arco pizz.

pizz. arco

119

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

arco

pizz. arco pizz. arco

pizz. arco

123

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

(as fast as you can clearly say it)
The discovery of song and the creation of musical instruments both owed their origin to a human impulse which lies deeper than conscious intention...

arco

pizz. arco pizz.

mf

128

P

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

arco

f *fp* *f* *fp* *f*

(shout it, George Crumb-style!)

3

schaum - kom - men!

(shout it, George Crumb-style!)

3

schaum - kom - men!

f *fp* *f* *fp* *f*

133

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

fp *f* *mf* *f*

(bold)

The need for rhythm in life...

(bold)

The need for rhythm in life...

(bold)

The need for rhythm in life...

(softer)

Richard Baker

f *f* *f* *f*

light and fast- do not coordinate with Violin II

140

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

pp *mp*

(slowly and melodically, without meaning)

Class- i- cal mus- ic is the kind we keep think - ing will turn in- to a tune- "Kin" Hubbard

(slowly and melodically, without meaning)

Class- i- cal mus- ic is the kind we keep think - ing will turn in- to a tune- "Kin" Hubbard

Q

146

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

pp

(as an antiphon)
Rhythm in life...

mf

fp

151

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

(as an antiphon)
The fathomless universe...

f

(as an antiphon)
You are the music...

p

f

(as an antiphon)
It is stranger than we can imagine...

fp

f

R

154

Vln. II

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ff

f

Free!

If!

ff

ff

157

Vln. II

(angry)
Respect your hair!

Vln. II

(angry)
Human Stupidity!

Vc.

(angry)
Shhhh!

160

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

(repeat over and over again, slowly)
My heart is so full to overflowing...

(repeat over and over again, very fast)
You are the music...

163

S
Senza mes.

Vln. I

(repeat over and over again, slowly)
We keep waiting for it to turn into a tune... *fade out*

Vln. II

(stand up, address the audience)
And would it have been worthwhile, after all, to have bitten off the matter with a smile, to have rolled the universe into a ball...

Vla.

fade out

Vc.

arco

166

Vln. I *(repeat over and over again, very fast)*
Do not ask, "What is it?"

Vln. II To roll it towards some overwhelming question... *(repeat over and over again, very fast)*
Do not ask, "What is it?"

Vla. *(repeat over and over again, very fast)*
Do not ask, "What is it?"

Vc.

168

Vln. I

Vln. II *bass drum* *(shout)*
Enough!

Vla.

Vc.

171 **T** Slow ♩=80

Vln. I

Vln. II *(to the others)*
No more words- just music... please. *(sit back down, then stand up, appeal to the others)*
My heart is full to overflowing...

Vla.

Vc. *pesante*
f *mf* *mp* *mp*

176 15

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

mp

3

5/4

180

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

mf

mp

p

3

5/4

183

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

mp

fp

mf

f

3

3/4

U

187

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

mf

mf

190

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

f

f

(barely audible)
M theory states that there is a universe for every probable decision...

f

193

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

ff

ff

ff

ff

V

196

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

fff

bass drum

non. vib.

fp

non. vib.

fp

fff

W

201

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

(just after Violin II, and *ppp*)

M theory states that there is a universe for every probable decision... (etc.)

M theory states that there is a universe for every probable decision... What does this mean for the hopeful among us? It means that there is,

continue *pp*

continue *pp*

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

somewhere out there, an entire universe that doesn't know pain or fear... (etc.)

(walk off the stage, half a step behind Violin II, ringing the bell once as you go.)

somewhere out there, an entire universe that doesn't know pain or fear... It means there's a universe where Hitler was only a painter, and Jesus Christ was just a carpenter.. And it means that there's a universe just like our own, in every respect, except that in it, you were never born. But it also means there's a universe just like our own, in every respect, except that in it, you are worshipped as the God of the Sun...

(walk off the stage, ringing the bell once as you go.)

(fade to nothing, but continue to draw your bow silently until the lights fade.)

(fade to nothing, but continue to draw your bow silently until the lights fade.)

bell

bell