

PORRIDGE

Text: Judy Constantinides

for reader and string orchestra
LRC 266

Dinos Constantinides

1 READER: Once upon a time, in a small Italian village, there lived an old woman named Baba Bouli. Baba Bouli was beloved by the villagers because she stirred up potions and medicines for all kinds of aches and pains, and always was ready to help them when she was needed.

Musical score for measures 1-5. The score is for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, and Double Bass. The tempo is marked as ♩ = 120 - 144. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The score includes dynamic markings such as *ff*, *dim.*, *p*, *mp*, *mf*, *pp*, and *f*. Performance instructions include *pizz.* (pizzicato) and *arco* (arco). Measure 1 features a *ff* dynamic with a *dim.* marking. Measure 2 has a *p* dynamic. Measure 3 includes a *pizz.* instruction and dynamics of *mp* and *mf*. Measure 4 has dynamics of *ff*, *dim.*, and *mf*. Measure 5 features dynamics of *f* and *pizz.*.

Now Baba Bouli had a helper called Little Girl who was a very willing worker and helped her very much but was not very smart. Little Girl kept their tiny house clean and free of dust, and all the jars, medicine bottles and ingredients for Baba Bouli's precious remedies she arranged in good order neatly on the shelves. However, there was one object she was not supposed to touch, and that was a big black pot that sat way up on a high shelf. Baba Bouli said that she herself was the only master of the pot-and THAT WAS THAT! Little Girl was curious of course, but she obeyed her mistress and never touched the pot.

2

Musical score for measures 6-10. The score is for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, and Double Bass. The score includes dynamic markings such as *f*, *dim.*, *mf*, *pp*, *mf*, *p*, *pizz.*, *arco*, and *f*. Performance instructions include *arco* and *pizz.*. Measure 6 features a *f* dynamic with a *dim.* marking. Measure 7 has dynamics of *mf* and *p*. Measure 8 includes a *pizz.* instruction and dynamics of *f* and *mf*. Measure 9 has dynamics of *mf* and *p*. Measure 10 features a *pp* dynamic and an *arco* instruction.

3 But at the end of one long day, when Baba Bouli and Little Girl had had a lot of customers with many complaints of hurting toes, and stiff fingers and aching stomachs and so on, they were very, very tired and hungry (too tired to cook dinner) so the old woman asked Little Girl to climb up on a stool and fetch down the mysterious big black pot. When Little Girl had done so, Baba Bouli took the pot and said to it: "Little pot, little pot, make us some porridge." The pot began to shake a little and bubble and lo and behold good hot porridge began to fill the pot! When the pot was full enough for two, Baba Bouli said "Little pot, little pot enough!" and the pot stopped. Then the hungry old woman and Little Girl gratefully sat down and ate the porridge-right down to the last bit! And at Baba Bouli's direction, Little Girl cleaned the pot and put it back up in its place on the shelf-and THAT WAS THAT!

Musical score for measures 11-15. The score is for five instruments: Vn. I, Vn. II, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Measure 11 is marked with a box containing the letter 'A'. Dynamics include *p*, *pp*, *f*, *mp*, *pizz.*, *arco*, and *mf*. The Vc. part has a *f* dynamic with a hairpin and a *mp* dynamic with a hairpin. The D.B. part has a *p* dynamic with a hairpin and an *mf* dynamic with a hairpin. The Vla. part has a *pp* dynamic with a hairpin and a *p* dynamic with a hairpin. The Vn. I and Vn. II parts have a *p* dynamic with a hairpin and an *mp* dynamic with a hairpin.

4 Every once in a while after that if the two were very hungry and too tired to cook, Baba Bouli would ask Little Girl to fetch the pot down from its shelf, and she would ask it to make porridge for them, and then Little Girl would put it back on the shelf and THAT WAS THAT!

Musical score for measures 16-20. The score is for five instruments: Vn. I, Vn. II, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Measure 16 is marked with a box containing the number '16'. Dynamics include *pp*, *mf*, *f*, and *p*. The Vc. part has a *pp* dynamic with a hairpin and a *mf* dynamic with a hairpin. The D.B. part has a *pp* dynamic with a hairpin and a *mf* dynamic with a hairpin. The Vla. part has a *pp* dynamic with a hairpin and a *f* dynamic with a hairpin. The Vn. I and Vn. II parts have a *pp* dynamic with a hairpin and a *f* dynamic with a hairpin. The Vc. part has a *mf* dynamic with a hairpin and a *f* dynamic with a hairpin. The D.B. part has a *mf* dynamic with a hairpin and a *f* dynamic with a hairpin. The Vn. I and Vn. II parts have a *f* dynamic with a hairpin and a *p* dynamic with a hairpin. The Vla. part has a *f* dynamic with a hairpin and a *p* dynamic with a hairpin. The Vc. part has a *f* dynamic with a hairpin and a *p* dynamic with a hairpin. The D.B. part has a *f* dynamic with a hairpin and a *p* dynamic with a hairpin.

5 Everything went along very well this way for a while and Baba Bouli helped the villagers and Little Girl helped Baba Bouli until one day when the old woman had to walk to another village to help someone there and Little Girl was left alone to take care of the house. Little Girl was very proud to be left in charge and bustled about dusting and cleaning and arranging the bottles and jars on the shelves when suddenly she stopped. There was that mysterious pot 'way up on the highest shelf and she was SO hungry from all the work she had been doing! Certainly Baba Bouli would not mind if she used the pot just ONCE-for a very short time-- to make porridge for herself!

B

Musical score for measures 21-25. The score includes staves for Vn. I, Vn. II, Vla., Vc., and D.B. with various dynamics and performance instructions.

- Vn. I:** *ff*, *mf*, *p*, *pizz.*, *p*
- Vn. II:** *ff*, *mf*, *f*, (Only first time)
- Vla.:** *ff*
- Vc.:** *ff*, *mf*, *mf*, *p*
- D.B.:** *ff*, *p*, *f*, *mf*, *p*



Musical score for measures 26-30. The score includes staves for Vn. I, Vn. II, Vla., Vc., and D.B. with various dynamics and performance instructions.

- Vn. I:** *pizz.*, *mp*, *arco*, *ff*, *f dim.*
- Vn. II:** *pizz.*, *mf*, *mp*, *mf*, *f dim.*
- Vla.:** *pizz.*, *mf*, *f*, *mp*
- Vc.:** *mf*, *p*
- D.B.:** *mf*, *mf*, *f*

6 So, Little Girl climbed up and got the pot and brought it down. Then she took a deep breath and said: "Little pot, little pot, make me some porridge!" (just like Baba Bouli did) and the pot began to shake and bubble a little and pretty soon it started to fill with porridge. Little Girl was so delighted she grabbed a spoon and began to eat the porridge when she suddenly stopped. She remembered that she had to tell the pot to stop-(just like Baba Bouli did)-so she opened her mouth and---- Oh, no! She couldn't recall the old woman's words that stopped the pot! Was it just "Little pot, little pot, STOP!" Little Girl tried those words but the pot didn't stop and the porridge bubbled and poured into the pot.

Musical score for measures 31-35. The score is for five instruments: Vn. I, Vn. II, Vla., Vc., and D.B. Measure 31 is marked with a circled 'C' and a 'p' dynamic. Measure 32 features a double bar line and a 'ff' dynamic. Measure 33 includes 'pizz.' and 'arco' markings. Measure 34 has a 'p' dynamic. Measure 35 has an 'f' dynamic. The Vla. part consists of rhythmic patterns. The Vc. and D.B. parts provide harmonic support with various dynamics including 'pp' and 'p'.



Musical score for measures 36-40. The score is for five instruments: Vn. I, Vn. II, Vla., Vc., and D.B. Measure 36 is marked with a circled '36'. The Vn. I part has dynamics of 'f', 'f', 'mf', and 'f'. The Vn. II part has dynamics of 'f dim.', 'pp', 'f', 'mf', and 'f'. The Vla. part has dynamics of 'f dim.', 'pp', 'f', 'mf', and 'ff'. The Vc. part has dynamics of 'f dim.', 'pp', 'mf', and 'f'. The D.B. part has dynamics of 'f dim.', 'pp', 'mf', and 'f'. The score shows a crescendo in the strings leading to a fortissimo (ff) dynamic in measure 40.

Musical score for measures 41-45. The score is for five instruments: Vn. I, Vn. II, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into two systems. The first system covers measures 41-45. The second system covers measures 46-50. The first system includes dynamic markings *ff* and *p*, and performance instructions *col legno* and *arco*. The second system includes a dynamic marking *f* and the instruction *arco*. A double bar line with repeat dots is located between the two systems.

Musical score for measures 46-50. The score is for five instruments: Vn. I, Vn. II, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into two systems. The first system covers measures 46-49. The second system covers measures 50-54. The first system includes dynamic markings *f* and performance instructions *arco*. The second system includes a dynamic marking *f* and the instruction *arco*. A double bar line with repeat dots is located between the two systems.

8 “Expelliarmus!” “Aresto Momentum!” the villagers shouted in desperation. “Diminuendo!” Little Girl was in a panic now. The porridge started to cover

E

Musical score for measures 61-65. The score includes parts for Vn. I, Vn. II, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The Vn. I part features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with accents. The Vn. II part has a melodic line starting with a forte (f) dynamic, moving to piano (p) and then mezzo-forte (mf) with arco markings. The Vla. part has a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with accents. The Vc. part has a melodic line starting with piano (p), moving to mezzo-forte (mf) with arco markings, and then back to piano (p) with pizzicato (pizz.) markings. The D.B. part has a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with accents. The dynamic marking *pp* (whisper, very low voice) is indicated below the D.B. part.



the village houses as the villagers and Little Girl fled to the town's outskirts. Just as the river of porridge approached the last house where everyone had

Musical score for measures 66-70. The score includes parts for Vn. I, Vn. II, Vla., Vc., and D.B. The Vn. I part features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with accents and a crescendo (cresc.) marking. The Vn. II part has a melodic line starting with piano-piano (pp) and moving to piano (p) with a crescendo (cresc.) marking. The Vla. part has a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with accents and a crescendo (cresc.) marking. The Vc. part has a melodic line starting with piano (p) and moving to forte (f) with a crescendo (cresc.) marking. The D.B. part has a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with accents and a crescendo (cresc.) marking.

gathered, down the road to the village came Baba Bouli.

F

Musical score for measures 71-75. The score includes parts for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello (Vc.), and Double Bass (D.B.).

- Vn. I:** *mf* *cresc.* (measures 71-75), *ff* (measures 74-75)
- Vn. II:** *mf* *cresc.* (measures 71-75), *ff* (measures 74-75)
- Vla.:** *mf* *cresc.* (measures 71-75), *ff* (measures 74-75)
- Vc.:** *f* (measures 71-72), *pizz.* *f* (measures 73-74), *arco* *f* (measures 74-75), *ff* (measures 74-75)
- D.B.:** *mf* (measures 71-72), *ff* (measures 73-74), *ff* (measures 74-75)



Musical score for measures 76-80. The score includes parts for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello (Vc.), and Double Bass (D.B.).

- Vn. I:** *col legno battuto (no voice)* *p* (measures 76-80)
- Vn. II:** *col legno battuto (no voice)* *p* (measures 76-80)
- Vla.:** *col legno battuto (no voice)* *p* (measures 76-80)
- Vc.:** *shout, high voice* (measures 76-77), *staccato* *f* (measures 78-80)
- D.B.:** *col legno battuto (no voice)* *p* (measures 76-80)

81 **G**

Vn. I *ff* *mf* *f* *mf*

Vn. II *ff* *f* *mf* *f*

Vla. *ff* *f* *f* *f* *f* *f*

Vc. *f* *f* *f* *f* *f* *f*

D.B. *ff* *f* *f* *f*

3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4



86 *pizz.* *pp* *f*

Vn. I *pp*

Vn. II *pp*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *pizz.* *pp*

D.B. *pizz.* *pp*

Porridge

91

Vn. I *p* *fff*

Vn. II *p* *fff*

Vla. *p* *fff*

Vc. *p* *fff*

D.B. *p* *fff*



96

Vn. I *p* *fff*

Vn. II *p* *fff*

Vla. *p* *fff*

Vc. *p* *fff*

D.B. *p* *fff*



101

Vn. I *f* *p* *f*

Vn. II *f* *p* *f*

Vla. *f* *p* *f*

Vc. *f* *f*

D.B. *f* *f*

106

Vn. I *f* *pp* *pizz.* *p*

Vn. II *f* *pp* *pizz.* *p*

Vla. *f* *pp* *f*

Vc. *pizz.* *p*

D.B. *pizz.* *p*

111

H

Vn. I *arco* *f* *f*

Vn. II *arco* *mf* *p* *f*

Vla. *pizz.* *p* *mf* *p* *arco* *f*

Vc. *arco* *mf* *p*

D.B. *mf* *p* *pizz.* *f*

116

Vn. I *mp* *mf* *f*

Vn. II *mf* *f*

Vla. *mf* *mf*

Vc. *pizz.* *mf* *pizz.* *f* *mp* *f* *f*

D.B. *mf* *p* *f*

I

121

Vn. I *pp*

Vn. II *p*

Vla. *p* *f*

Vc. *p* *p* *ff* *pizz.* *arco* *p*

D.B. *p* *pp*

125

Vn. I *f dim.* *p*

Vn. II *f dim.* *p* *mf*

Vla. *f dim.* *p* *mf* *ff*

Vc. *f* *ff* *mf*

D.B. *f dim.* *p* *f* *mf*

J

129

Vn. I *mp* *ff* *p* *ff* *f*

Vn. II *mp* *ff* *p* *ff*

Vla. *mp* *ff* *p* *ff*

Vc. *mp* *ff* *p* *ff*

D.B. *mf* *mp* *ff* *p* *ff* *ff*

1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

133

Vn. I *f* *mp*

Vn. II *f* *mp*

Vla. *f* *p*

Vc. *f* *mp*

D.B. *f* *mp* *mf* *pizz.* *p*

1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4



9

She looked at the village houses covered with porridge, at the one house still untouched and the townspeople huddled around it and at Little Girl, holding the bubbling pot, and she said "Little pot, little pot, // ENOUGH!" and the pot stopped!

138

K

Vn. I *p* *pp*

Vn. II *p* *p*

Vla. *p* *pp*

Vc. *f* *p*

D.B. *pizz.* *p*

10 The villagers had to eat their way back to their houses

Musical score for measures 143-147. The score includes staves for Vn. I, Vn. II, Vla., Vc., and D.B. with various dynamics and performance instructions.

- 143:** Vn. I: *mf* *cresc.*; Vn. II: *pizz.*; Vla.: *mf*; Vc.: *mf*; D.B.: *mf*.
- 144:** Vn. I: *Gissando*; Vn. II: *f* *cresc.*; Vla.: *f*; Vc.: *f*; D.B.: *f*.
- 145:** Vn. I: *f* *cresc.*; Vn. II: *ff*; Vla.: *pizz.*; Vc.: *pizz.*; D.B.: *pizz.*.
- 146:** Vn. I: *ff*; Vn. II: *ff*; Vla.: *arco*; Vc.: *arco*; D.B.: *arco*.
- 147:** Vn. I: *mf*; Vn. II: *mf*; Vla.: *mf*; Vc.: *mf*; D.B.: *mf*.



(which took several weeks) and Baba Bouli and Little Girl went back to their tiny house, and Little Girl promised her mistress that she would never, never touch the pot again. The pot went back up on its high, high shelf and THAT WAS REALLY the end of THAT!

Musical score for measures 148-151. The score includes staves for Vn. I, Vn. II, Vla., Vc., and D.B. with various dynamics and performance instructions.

- 148:** Vn. I: *pizz.* *mf*; Vn. II: *mp*; Vla.: *p*; Vc.: *pp*; D.B.: *pp*.
- 149:** Vn. I: *mp*; Vn. II: *pp*; Vla.: *pp*; Vc.: *pp*; D.B.: *pp*.
- 150:** Vn. I: *mp* *cresc.*; Vn. II: *mp* *cresc.*; Vla.: *mp* *cresc.*; Vc.: *mp* *cresc.*; D.B.: *mp* *cresc.*.
- 151:** Vn. I: *f* *cresc.*; Vn. II: *fff*; Vla.: *fff*; Vc.: *fff*; D.B.: *fff*.