

Simple Gifts

SHAKER TUNE

Arr. by Charles J. Torian, Jr.

INSTRUMENTATION

1 Full Score	1 E ^b Contra-alto Clarinet	1 F Horn 4
1 Piccolo	1 B ^b Contrabass Clarinet	2 Trombone 1
2 C Flute 1	4 E ^b Alto Saxophone 1 & 2	4 Trombone 2 & 3
4 C Flute 2	2 B ^b Tenor Saxophone	2 Baritone B.C.
2 Oboe	1 E ^b Baritone Saxophone	2 Baritone T.C.
2 Bassoon 1 & 2	3 B ^b Cornet 1	6 Tuba
1 E ^b Clarinet	6 B ^b Cornet 2 & 3	1 String Bass
4 B ^b Clarinet 1	1 F Horn 1	1 Timpani
8 B ^b Clarinet 2 & 3	1 F Horn 2	3 Percussion
2 B ^b Bass Clarinet	1 F Horn 3	<i>Suspended Cymbal/Triangle</i>
		<i>Bass Drum/Crash Cymbals</i>

PROGRAM NOTE

Simple Gifts, long-attributed as “Shaker Tune” or “19th Century Shaker Melody” was probably written by Elder Joseph Brackett in 1848. Though some call it a hymn (it appears in “The Hymnal 1982”), it was really intended to be a song. The tune was used for dancing, or ‘laboring,’ a term the Shakers used for dance. The lyrics are not sacred and the last lines are actually instructions for movement:

“To turn, turn, will be our delight,
‘Till by turning, turning,
We come round right.”

Though originally intended to be sung in an animated manner and at a rather fast tempo, many arrangers have slowed the tune down, perhaps because the melody is perfectly comfortable at nearly any speed. Unlike many songs, Simple Gifts can be as gentle as a lullaby or soar in a majestic manner. This arrangement leans more toward the latter style, even incorporating a heroic climax at the end.

This band version is a transcription of an earlier arrangement created for organ, and it attempts to follow the “stop registrations” provided therein. This will be particularly noticeable starting at the pickup to measure 18 and continuing through 33 where a “five-rank cornet” is synthesized. In simple terms, the melody is notated on five different pitch levels played simultaneously by Piccolo, Flute 1, Flute 2, Oboe, and B-flat Clarinet. These pitches reinforce partials in the natural harmonic overtone series. The result produces an unusual, but rich timbre.

Score

Simple Gifts Shaker Tune

Attributed to Elder Joseph Brackett
Arr. by Charles J. Torian, Jr.

Andante ♩ = 72

The score is for a full orchestra and includes the following parts:

- Piccolo
- Flute 1/2
- Oboe
- Bassoon 1/2
- Clarinet in E \flat
- B \flat Clarinet 1
- B \flat Clarinet 2/3
- Bass Clarinet
- Contrabass Clarinet
- E \flat Alto Saxophone 1/2
- B \flat Tenor Saxophone
- E \flat Baritone Saxophone
- B \flat Trumpet 1
- B \flat Trumpet 2/3
- F Horn 1/2
- F Horn 3/4
- Trombone 1
- Trombone 2/3
- Baritone Horn
- Tuba (St. Bs.)
- String Bass (mp arco)
- Timpani ([F-B-C] mp)
- Percussion (Susp. Cym. mp, Trgl.)

Dynamic markings include *mp* (mezzo-piano), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *mp a2*. The score features a large 'Preview Only' watermark across the center.

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This page of a musical score contains the following parts and markings:

- Picc.**: Piccolo
- Fl. 1/2**: Flutes
- Ob.**: Oboe
- Bsn. 1/2**: Bassoons
- E♭ Cl.**: E-flat Clarinet
- B♭ Cl. 1**: Bass Clarinet 1
- B♭ Cl. 2/3**: Bass Clarinet 2/3
- B. Cl.**: Bass Clarinet
- Cb. Cl.**: Contrabass Clarinet
- A. Sx. 1/2**: Alto Saxophone 1/2
- T. Sx.**: Tenor Saxophone
- B. Sx.**: Baritone Saxophone
- B♭ Tpt. 1/2/3**: Trumpets
- F Hn. 1/2/3/4**: Horns
- Tbn. 1/2/3**: Trombones
- Bar.**: Baritone
- Tuba**: Tuba
- St. Bs.**: Snare Drum
- Timp.**: Timpani
- Perc.**: Percussion

Key markings and dynamics include:

- a2**: Second octave
- mp**: mezzo-piano
- Euphonium**: Euphonium part starting in the lower brass section
- 7**: Measure number

Picc. *mp*
 Fl. 1 *mp*
 Fl. 2 *mf*
 Ob. *mf*
 Bsn. 1 *mp*
 Bsn. 2 *mf*
 Eb Cl. *mp*
 Bb Cl. 1 *mf*
 Bb Cl. 2 *mf*
 B. Cl. *mp*
 Cb. Cl. *mp*
 A. Sx. 1 *mp*
 A. Sx. 2 *mf*
 T. Sx. *mp*
 B. Sx. *mf*
 Bb Tpt. 1 *mp*
 Bb Tpt. 2 *mp*
 F Hn. 1 *mp*
 F Hn. 2 *mp*
 F Hn. 3 *mp*
 F Hn. 4 *mp*
 Tbn. 1 *mp*
 Tbn. 2 *mp*
 Bar. *mp*
 Tuba *mp*
 St. Bs. *mp*
 Timp. *mp*
 Perc. *mp*

20

Picc.

Fl. 1
2

Ob.

Bsn. 1
2

E♭ Cl.

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2
3

B. Cl.

Cb. Cl.

A. Sx. 1
2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2
3

F Hn. 1
2

F Hn. 3
4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2
3

Bar.

Tuba

St. Bs.

20

Timp.

Perc.

26

30

This page contains the musical score for measures 26 through 30 of an orchestral piece. The score is written for a variety of instruments, including woodwinds, brass, strings, and percussion. The key signature is B-flat major, and the time signature is 4/4. The score is marked with *mf* (mezzo-forte) throughout. A large, diagonal watermark reading "Preview Only" is overlaid across the center of the page.

The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- Picc.** Piccolo: Enters in measure 30 with a melodic line.
- Fl. 1/2** Flute 1 and 2: Enters in measure 30 with a melodic line.
- Ob.** Oboe: Enters in measure 30 with a melodic line.
- Bsn. 1/2** Bassoon 1 and 2: Enters in measure 30 with a melodic line.
- E♭ Cl.** E-flat Clarinet: Plays a melodic line from measure 26.
- B♭ Cl. 1/3** B-flat Clarinet 1, 2, and 3: Play a melodic line from measure 26.
- B. Cl.** Bass Clarinet: Enters in measure 30 with a melodic line.
- Cb. Cl.** Contrabass Clarinet: Enters in measure 30 with a melodic line.
- A. Sx. 1/2** Alto Saxophone 1 and 2: Enters in measure 30 with a melodic line.
- T. Sx.** Tenor Saxophone: Enters in measure 30 with a melodic line.
- B. Sx.** Baritone Saxophone: Plays a melodic line from measure 26.
- B♭ Tpt. 1/3** B-flat Trumpet 1, 2, and 3: Play a melodic line from measure 26.
- F Hn. 1/2** French Horn 1 and 2: Play a melodic line from measure 26.
- F Hn. 3/4** French Horn 3 and 4: Play a melodic line from measure 26.
- Euphonium**: Plays a melodic line from measure 26.
- Tbn. 2/3** Trombone 2 and 3: Play a melodic line from measure 26.
- Bar.** Baritone: Plays a melodic line from measure 26.
- Tuba**: Plays a melodic line from measure 26, marked *mf* and *div.*
- St. Bs.** Snare Drum: Remains silent.
- Timp.** Timpani: Plays a melodic line from measure 26, marked *mf*.
- Perc.** Percussion: Remains silent.

39

Picc.

Fl. 1
2

Ob.

Bsn. 1
2

E♭ Cl.

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2
3

B. Cl.

Cb. Cl.

A. Sx. 1
2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2
3

F Hn. 1
2

F Hn. 3
4

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2
3

Bar.

Tuba

St. Bs.

39

Timp.

Perc.

rall.

53

Picc.

Fl. 1
2

Ob.

Bsn. 1
2

E♭ Cl.

B♭ Cl. 1
2
3

B. Cl.

Cb. Cl.

A. Sx. 1
2

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1
2
3

F Hn. 1
2

F Hn. 3
4

Tbn. 1
2
3

Bar.

Tuba

St. Bs.

53

Timp.

Perc.

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