

The Lesson of the Moth

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*** note for piano :
prepare F# 5 with a strip of 1" thick
strip of paper woven between strings
1&2, and 2&3.

♩ = ca. 66-72; not too fast
very freely; whimsical

Musical score for the first system, measures 1-4. The score is in bass clef with a 4/4 time signature. The tempo is marked as ca. 66-72, not too fast, and the performance style is 'very freely; whimsical'. The music features a series of chords in the right hand and a melodic line in the left hand. The first measure is marked with a forte 'f' dynamic. The second measure is marked 'No Ped.'. The third and fourth measures are marked 'Ped.' with an asterisk, indicating a specific pedal effect.

5

Musical score for the second system, measures 5-8. The score continues from the first system. The tempo and performance style remain the same. The music features a series of chords in the right hand and a melodic line in the left hand. The first measure is marked with an asterisk. The second measure is marked 'Ped.'. The third and fourth measures are marked 'Ped.' with an asterisk, indicating a specific pedal effect.

in time

8

in strict time

Musical score for the third system, measures 9-12. The score continues from the second system. The tempo and performance style remain the same. The music features a series of chords in the right hand and a melodic line in the left hand. The first measure is marked with a piano 'pp' dynamic. The second measure is marked 'in time'. The third and fourth measures are marked 'in strict time'. The first measure is marked 'Ped. lightly'.

Ped. lightly

10 *parlando* *mf* very hard
and accented
ff

i was talk ing to a moth the oth er eve - 'ning he was try - ing to break in - to an e -

12

lec - tric light - bulb and fry him self on the wires...

14 *parlando* *mf*

why do you fel - lows pull this stunt i asked him be - cause it is the con

17

ven-tion - al thing for moths or why if that had been an un - cov - ered

19

can - dle in - stead of an e - lec - tric light - bulb you would

21

now be a small un - sight - ly cin - der have you no sense -

23

p

mf

no sense _____ plen - ty

25

mp

mf

tenderly

of it he an - swered_ plen - ty of it but at times we get tired_ of

mf

Ped.

28

f

us - ing it we get bored with the rou-tine and crave beau-ty and ex - cite-ment

f

31

fi - re is beau - ti - ful and we know that if we get too close it will kill us but

Slower; With Rubato

34

what does it mat - ter... it is bet - ter to be hap - py for a mo - ment

Slower; With Rubato
Lush!

Ped. as necessary

38 **not too slow; with some motion**

and be burned up with beau - ty than to live a long time and be bored

not too slow; with some motion

44 *mf* *p* "trail off" *a tempo*

all the while _____ so we wad all our life in-to one lit-tle roll and then we

a tempo
pp

**Slower again;
with rubato**

48 *mp* *ff*

shoot the roll that is what life is for it is bet ter

mp *pp* *ff*

Ped.

**Slower again;
with rubato**

51

to be part of beau-ty for one in - stant

53

and then cease to ex-ist than to ex-ist for-ev-er and nev er be a

This system contains measures 53 through 56. The vocal line is in bass clef with lyrics: "and then cease to ex-ist than to ex-ist for-ev-er and nev er be a". The piano accompaniment features a complex rhythmic structure with time signatures of 3/4, 4/4, and 7/8. It includes triplets and various chordal textures.

57

part of beau - ty

This system contains measures 57 through 59. The vocal line is in bass clef with lyrics: "part of beau - ty". The piano accompaniment continues with complex textures, including a 7/8 time signature and dense chordal patterns.

60

mp
our at - ti - tude toward life is

Tentatively
mp

This system contains measures 60 through 63. The vocal line is in bass clef with lyrics: "our at - ti - tude toward life is". The piano accompaniment is marked *mp* and includes the instruction *Tentatively*. It features a 7/8 time signature and complex chordal textures.

62 *f*

come ea - sy go ea - sy we are like hu - man be - ings used to be be - fore they be - came_ too

f

Ped. as necessary

65 *mp*

civ - i - lized to en - joy them - selves_ and be - fore i could

mp

No ped.

68 *f*

ar - gue him out of his phil - o - soph - y he went and

f

70

im-mo-lat-ed him - self on a pat - ent ci - gar - light - er

Ped. as necessary

73

mf i do not a-gree with him my - self *mp* i would rath - er have half the hap - pi-ness

Ped.

* Ped. as necessary

75

and twice the long - e - vi-ty but at the same time i wish

78 *mf* *p* *f*

there was some-thing i want ed as bad-ly as he want ed to

pp *f*

Ped. *

81

fry him self

Ped.

Ped. as necessary

83