

THE HAPLESS CHILD

from *The Hapless Child* (WATT/4, 1975)
words by Edward Gorey

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A *rubato* [♩ = 86] 5

voice: there was once a lit-tle girl named char-lotte so-phia her pa-rents we-re kind

guitar: accompany/fill freely throughout

marimba/vib: vibraphone

piano: pizz. 3



10 *a tempo* [♩ = 98]

voc: and well to do she had a doll whom she called hor - tense

guit

mar/vib

pno

vin1

vin2

vla

cel

b

15 **B** *rubato* 20 25

voc

tpt

guit

mar/vib

pno

vin1

vin2

vla

cel

b

arco

a tempo **C** ♩ = 88 30

voc

one day her father a colonel in the army was or-dered to a -fri-ca several months later he was re-po-r-ted killed in a na-tive up-ri - sing

bcl

bass clarinet

tub

tuba

guit

mar/vib

marimba

pno

vin1

vin2

vla

cel

b

35 40

her mo-ther fell in-to a de-cli-ne that proved fa-tal her on-ly o-ther re-la-tive an uncle was brained by a piece of ma-son-ry

voc
bcl
tub
guit
mar/vib
pno
vin1
vin2
vla
cel
b



D *rubato* 45 E ♩ = 106 *a tempo* 50

charlotte sophia was left in the hands of the fa-mi-

marimba

arco

voc
tpt
bcl
tub
guit
vibraphone
mar/vib
pno
vin1
vin2
vla
cel
b

55

voc ly law - yer he at once put her into a boar - ding school there she was pu-nished

bcl

tub

guit

mar/vib

pno

vin1

vin2

vla

cel

b



60

voc by the teachers for things she ha - dn't done hortense was torn li - mb from limb by the other pupils

bcl

tub

guit

mar/vib

pno

vin1

vin2

vla

cel

b

65

voc during the day charlotte so-phia hid as much as possible at night she lay a-wake weeping and we - ping

bcl

tub

guit

mar/vib

pno

vin1

vin2

vla

cel

b



70

voc when she could bear it no longer she fled from the school at dawn she soon lost con-scious-ness and sank to the

bcl

tub

guit

mar/vib

pno

vin1

vin2

vla

cel

b

F *rubato* (75) (80) ♩ = 106

voc pavement *a tempo*

tpt

bcl

tub

guit

mar/vib

pno *vibraphone*

vin1

vin2

vla

cel

b

pizz.

G1 (85)

voc a man came and took the locket with her parents pictures inside another man came from the opposite

guit

mar/vib

pno

vin1

vin2

vla

cel

b

90

voc
direction and carried her off he brought her to a low place he sold her to a drunken brute

guit

mar/vib

pno

vin1

vin2

vla

cel

b

G2

95

voc
charlotte sophia was put to work making artificial flowers she lived on scraps and tapwater from time to

guit

mar/vib

pno

vin1

vin2

vla

cel

b

100 104 H *rubato*

voc
time the bru - te got the hor - rors charlotte sophia's eyesight began to fail ra - pi - dly

guit

mar/vib

pno

vin1

vin2

vla

cel

b

110 115 I ♩ = 90 *a tempo*

voc
meanwhile her fa - ther who was not dead aft - ter

tpt

bcl

tub

guit

mar/vib

pno

vin1

vin2

vla

cel

b

arco

120

voc all re - tur - ned home every day he motored thru - the streets sear - ching for her at last the brute went off his

bcl

tub

guit

mar/vib

pno

vin1

vin2

vla

cel

b



125

130

voc head charlotte sophia now al-most blind ran into the street

bcl

tub

guit

mar/vib

pno

vin1

vin2

vla

cel

b

135

voc she was at once struck down by a car her father got out to look at the dying child

bcl

tub

guit

mar/vib

pno

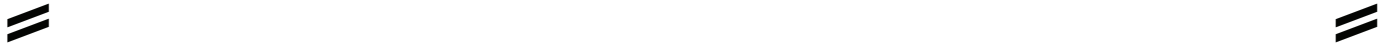
vin1

vin2

vla

cel

b



140

voc she wa - s s - o changed he di - d not re - co - gnize her

bcl

tub

guit

mar/vib

pno

vin1

vin2

vla

cel

b