

# The String of Destiny

For Symphonic Orchestra

## Instrumentation

1 Piccolo  
1 Flute  
1 Oboe  
1 English Horn  
2 Bassoons  
2 Clarinets  
  
4 Horns  
2 Trumpets  
2 Trombones  
1 Bass Trombone  
1 Tuba  
  
Timpani  
Percussion 1  
Triangle  
Snare Drum  
Tam-tam  
Percussion 2  
Tam-tam  
Glockenspiel  
Crash Cymbals  
Harp  
  
Violin I  
Violin II  
Viola  
Cello  
Double Bass

## Program Notes

This piece is my interpretation of Grace Lin's incredible novel *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon*. Much like the novel, this piece follows a protagonist who lives in a bleak remote village. This protagonist journeys out into the wilderness in search of the String of Destiny. Despite the challenges along the way they manage to find it and bring happiness and stability back to their village. When writing this piece I tried to capture the intense feelings that would come along with such an exhilarating tale, the dreariness of the village, the hope in the protagonist, the mystery of the forest, the intensity of the trials along the way, and the triumph and joy that comes with beating such a monumental challenge.

# The String of Destiny

for Symphonic Orchestra

*Mysterious* ♩ = 52 *poco accel.*

Piccolo

Flute

Oboe

English Horn

Clarinets 1 & 2 in B $\flat$

Bassoons 1 & 2

Horns 1 & 2 in F

Horns 3 & 4 in F

Trumpet 1 & 2 in C

Trombones 1 & 2

Bass Trombone

Tuba

Timpani *F, A, B, E*

Percussion 1  
Tam Tam  
Triangle  
Snare Drum

Percussion 2  
Glockenspiel  
Crash Cymbals  
Tam Tam

Harp

*Mysterious* ♩ = 52 *poco accel.*

Violin I *solo*  
*mp*

Violin II *ppp* *p* *ppp*

Viola *ppp* *p* *ppp*

Cello

Double Bass

accel.

10 Dramatic ♩ = 52

6

Picc.

Fl.

Ob.

Eng. Hn.

Cl. 1, 2

Bsn. 1, 2

Hn. 1, 2

Hn. 3, 4

Tpt. 1, 2

Trb. 1, 2

B. Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Hp.

accel.

10 Dramatic ♩ = 52

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

*mf*

*p*

*ppp*

*p*

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

tutti

div.

div.

13 Jolly ♩ = 152

Picc. *mf* *ff* *sub. pp*

Fl. *mf* *ff* *sub. pp*

Ob.

Eng. Hn.

Cl. 1, 2

Bsn. 1, 2

Hn. 1, 2 *mp*<sup>3</sup> *ff*

Hn. 3, 4 *mp*<sup>3</sup> *ff*

Tpt. 1, 2 *mp*<sup>3</sup> *ff*

Trb. 1, 2 *ppp* *mf* *ff*

B. Tbn.

Tba. *ppp* *mf* *ff*

Timp.

Perc. 1 Tam-tam *pp* *ff* let ring

Perc. 2 Glockenspiel *f* let ring

Hp.

Jolly ♩ = 152

Vln. I *ff* *sub. pp*

Vln. II *pp* *ff* *pp*

Vla. *pp* *ff*

Vc. *pp* *ff*

Db. *pp* *ff*

20 23

Picc. *f*

Fl. *f*

Ob. *f*

Eng. Hn.

Cl. 1, 2 *f* 1. *f* 2. *mf*

Bsn. 1, 2

Hn. 1, 2 *a2* *mp* *mf*

Hn. 3, 4 *mp* 3.

Tpt. 1, 2 *a2* *mf*

Trb. 1, 2 *a2* *mp*

B. Tbn. *mp*

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1 Triangle *pp* Snare Drum *mp*

Perc. 2 Crash Cymbal *f*

Hp.

Vln. I *ppp* *mf* 23

Vln. II *mp* *mf*

Vla. *mp* *mf* div.

Vc. *mp* *mf*

Db. *mf*

27

Picc.

Fl.

Ob.

Eng. Hn.

Cl. 1, 2

Bsn. 1, 2

Hn. 1, 2

Hn. 3, 4

Tpt. 1, 2

Trb. 1, 2

B. Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

*p*

*mp*

*mf*

*f*

*div.*

*sim.*

Triangle

Snare Drum

Glockenspiel

34 *poco rit.*

Picc. *f* *ff*  
 Fl. *f* *ff*  
 Ob. *mf* *ff*  
 Eng. Hn. *mf* *ff*  
 Cl. 1, 2 *mf* *ff*  
 Bsn. 1, 2 *f*  
 Hn. 1, 2 *mf* *ff*  
 Hn. 3, 4 *mf* *ff*  
 Tpt. 1, 2 *f* *ff*  
 Trb. 1, 2 *mf* *f*  
 B. Tbn. *mf* *f*  
 Tba. *mf* *f*  
 Timp.  
 Perc. 1 *mp*  
 Perc. 2 Crash Cymbal *f*  
 Hp.  
 Vln. I *f* *ff*  
 Vln. II *f* *ff*  
 Vla. *mf* *f*  
 Vc. *mf* *f*  
 Db. *mf* *f*



Mysterious ♩ = 138

41 46

Picc. *sub.* *mp* *pp*

Fl. *sub.* *mp* *pp*

Ob.

Eng. Hn. *mp*

Cl. 1, 2

Bsn. 1, 2 *mp*

Hn. 1, 2 *mp* *pp*

Hn. 3, 4 *mp*

Tpt. 1, 2 *mp* *pp*

Trb. 1, 2 *mp*

B. Tbn. *mp*

Tba. *mp*

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 Tam-tam *mf* *ff* *let ring*

Hp. *pp*

Vln. I *mp* *p* *pp* *decresc. poco a poco*

Vln. II *div.* *mp*

Vla. *mp*

Vc. *mp* *pizz.* *pp*

Db. *mp* *pizz.* *pp*

48

Picc.

Fl.

Ob.

Eng. Hn.

Cl. 1, 2

Bsn. 1, 2

Hn. 1, 2

Hn. 3, 4

Tpt. 1, 2

Trb. 1, 2

B. Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

55

56

Picc. *pp* *p* *mp*

Fl.

Ob. *mp*

Eng. Hn.

Cl. 1, 2

Bsn. 1, 2

Hn. 1, 2

Hn. 3, 4

Tpt. 1, 2

Trb. 1, 2

B. Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Hp.

56

Vln. I *ppp*

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

62 64

Picc. *mf*

Fl. *mp*

Ob. *mf* *mp*

Eng. Hn. *mp*

Cl. 1, 2 *mp* a2

Bsn. 1, 2 *mp* a2

Hn. 1, 2 *mf*

Hn. 3, 4 *mf*

Tpt. 1, 2

Trb. 1, 2

B. Tbn.

Tba.

Timp. *pp* *mf*

Perc. 1 Tam-tam *pp* *mf*

Perc. 2 Crash Cymbals *mp* *mp*

Hp. *mp* *mp*

Vln. I *mp* 64 *div.* *sim.*

Vln. II *p* *mp* *div.* *div.*

Vla.

Vc. *mp*

Db.

69

Picc.

Fl.

Ob.

Eng. Hn.

Cl. 1, 2

Bsn. 1, 2

Hn. 1, 2

Hn. 3, 4

Tpt. 1, 2

Trb. 1, 2

B. Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

*p*

*f*

arco

80 Menacing

76

80 Menacing

*p*

*f*

*mf*

*f*

*f*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*ff*

*f*

1.

*mf*

*f*

*p*

*mp*

*f*

2.

*p*

*pp*

*f*

3.

*p*

*mp*

*f*

a2

*mp*

*ff*

a2

*p*

*pp*

*f*

a2

*p*

*f*

*f*

3.

*f*

Snare Drum

*f*

Glockenspiel

*mf*

Crash Cymbals

*ff*

*p*

*mp*

*f*

80 Menacing

*p*

*pp*

*f*

*f*

*f*

div.

*f*

*f*

*f*

*f*

*p*

*pp*

*f*

arco

*p*

*f*

83

Picc.

Fl.

Ob.

Eng. Hn.

Cl. 1, 2

Bsn. 1, 2

Hn. 1, 2

Hn. 3, 4

Tpt. 1, 2

Trb. 1, 2

B. Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Hp.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

88

*mp*

*mp*

*p*

*mp*

*pp*

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

*mf*

*mf*

*mp*

*mp*

*f*

*f*

*mp*

*mp*

*pp*

*pp*

*mp*

Transposed Score

*poco rit.* *rit.*

90

Picc. *ff* *mf* *ff*

Fl. *ff* *mf* *ff*

Ob. *ff* *mf* *ff*

Eng. Hn. *ff* *mf* *ff*

Cl. 1, 2 *ff* *mf* *ff*

Bsn. 1, 2 *ff* *mf* *ff*

Hn. 1, 2 *mp* *ff* *mf* *ff*

Hn. 3, 4 *mp* *ff* *mf* *ff*

Tpt. 1, 2 *p* *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

Trb. 1, 2 *p* *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

B. Tbn. *p* *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

Tba. *p* *ff* *mf* *ff* *mf*

Timp. *p* *ff* *mf* *ff* *p*

Perc. 1

Perc. 2 *ff* *mf* Tam-tam

Hp. *3* *3* *3* *3* *3* *3* *3* *3*

Vln. I *poco rit.* *ff* *mf* *ff* *pp*

Vln. II *div.* *ff* *mf* *ff* *mp*

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

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

Db. *p* *ff* *mf* *ff* *mp*



101 Hesitantly ♩ = 69

97

Picc. Fl. Ob. Eng. Hn. Cl. 1, 2 Bsn. 1, 2

Hn. 1, 2 Hn. 3, 4 Tpt. 1, 2 Trb. 1, 2 B. Tbn. Tba. Timp.

Perc. 1 Perc. 2

Hp.

101 Hesitantly ♩ = 69

Vln. I Vln. II Vla. Vc. Db.

accel. . . . .

104

Picc. *mp*

Fl. *mp*

Ob.

Eng. Hn. *p*

Cl. 1, 2 *mp* 1. a2

Bsn. 1, 2

Hn. 1, 2

Hn. 3, 4

Tpt. 1, 2

Trb. 1, 2

B. Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Hp.

accel. . . . .

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

111 Excited ♩ = 138

110

Picc. *mf* *mp*

Fl. *mp*

Ob. *mf* *mp*

Eng. Hn.

Cl. 1, 2 *mf*

Bsn. 1, 2

Hn. 1, 2 *mf* 1.

Hn. 3, 4

Tpt. 1, 2 *mp* a2

Trb. 1, 2 *mp*

B. Tbn.

Tba. *mp*

Timp.

Perc. 1 *pp* *mp*

Perc. 2 Crash Cymbals Glockenspiel

Hp.

Vln. I *pp* *mp*

Vln. II *pp* *mp* div.

Vla. *pp* *mp*

Vc. *mp*

Db. *mp*

115

Picc. *mf* *mp*

Fl. *p* *mf*

Ob. *p* *mf*

Eng. Hn. *p* *mf*

Cl. 1,2 *mp* *a2* *mf*

Bsn. 1,2 *p* *a2* *mf*

Hn. 1,2 *mp*

Hn. 3,4 *mp*

Tpt. 1,2

Trb. 1,2 *mp* 1.

B. Tbn.

Tba. *mp*

Timp.

Perc. 1 Triangle Snare Drum *mp*

Perc. 2 *f*

Hp.

Vln. I *mp* *mf*

Vln. II *p* *div.* *mp*

Vla. *p* *mp*

Vc. *p* *mp*

Db.

121 rit.

Picc. *f* *ff*

Fl. *f* *ff*

Ob. *ff*

Eng. Hn. *mp* *ff*

Cl. 1, 2 *ff*

Bsn. 1, 2 *mp* *f*

Hn. 1, 2 *p* *ff*

Hn. 3, 4 *p* *ff*

Tpt. 1, 2 *f* *ff*

Trb. 1, 2 *p* *f*

B. Tbn. *p* *f*

Tba. *p* *f*

Timp. *p* *f*

Perc. 1 Tam-tam *mp* *ff* *ff*

Perc. 2 *f* *f*

Hp. *mp* *ff*

Vln. I *mp* *f*

Vln. II *p* *f*

Vla. *p* *f*

Vc. *p* *f*

Db. *p* *f*

124 Grand ♩ = 116

127

accel. . . . .

Picc. *mp* *ff*

Fl. *mp* *ff*

Ob. *mp* *ff*

Eng. Hn. *mp* *f*

Cl. 1, 2 *mp* *ff*

Bsn. 1, 2 *mp* *f*

Hn. 1, 2 *mp* *f*

Hn. 3, 4 *mp* *f*

Tpt. 1, 2 *mp* *f*

Trb. 1, 2 *mp* *f*

B. Tbn. *mp* *f*

Tba. *mp* *f*

Timp.

Perc. 1 Snare Drum *ff* *mp*

Perc. 2 Crash Cymbal *ff*

Hp.

accel. . . . .

133 Exuberant ♩ = 152

Vln. I *mp* *ff*

Vln. II *mp* *f* div.

Vla. *mp* *f* div.

Vc. *mp* *f*

Db. *mp*

134

Picc. *mp* *f* *mf*

Fl. *mp* *f* *mf*

Ob. *mf* *f* *mf*

Eng. Hn. *mf* *mf* *f* *mf*

Cl. 1, 2 *mf* *f* *mf*

Bsn. 1, 2 *mf* *f* *mf*

Hn. 1, 2 *mf* *f* *mf* *mp* *f* *mf*

Hn. 3, 4 *f* *mp* *f*

Tpt. 1, 2 *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf*

Trb. 1, 2

B. Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

Perc. 1 *f*

Perc. 2 *f* Glockenspiel

Hp.

Vln. I *mf* *f* *mf*

Vln. II *mp* *f* *mp*

Vla. *mp* *f* *mp*

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

Db.

140 141 poco rit. . . . .

**Woodwinds:**  
 Picc. *f*  
 Fl. *f*  
 Ob. *f*  
 Eng. Hn. *f*  
 Cl. 1, 2 *f*  
 Bsn. 1, 2 *mp*

**Brass:**  
 Hn. 1, 2 *f*  
 Hn. 3, 4 *f*  
 Tpt. 1, 2 *f*  
 Trb. 1, 2 *mp*  
 B. Tbn. *mf*  
 Tba. *mp*

**Percussion & Harp:**  
 Timp. *pp* to *ff*  
 Perc. 1 *pp* to *ff*  
 Perc. 2 *p* to *ff*  
 Hp.

**Strings:**  
 Vln. I *f*  
 Vln. II *f*  
 Vla. *f*  
 Vc. *f*  
 Db. *f*

**Measure 141:** 141

**Measure 144:** *poco rit.*



145

Picc. *ff* *fp* *ff* *fff*

Fl. *ff* *f fp* *ff* *fff*

Ob. *ff* *f fp* *ff* *fff*

Eng. Hn. *ff* *f fp* *ff* *fff*

Cl. 1, 2 *ff* *f fp* *ff* *fff*

Bsn. 1, 2 *ff* *f fp* *ff* *fff*

Hn. 1, 2 *ff* *f* *fff*

Hn. 3, 4 *ff* *f* *fff*

Tpt. 1, 2 *fff* *pp* *ff* *fff*

Trb. 1, 2 *ff* *f* *fff*

B. Tbn. *ff* *f* *fff*

Tba. *ff* *f* *fff*

Timp.

Perc. 1 Tam-tam *fff* *p* *fff*

Perc. 2 Crash Cymbals *fff* Glockenspiel *mp* *ff*

Hp. *mp* *ff*

Vln. I *ff* *pp* *ff* *fff*

Vln. II *ff* *pp* *ff* *fff*

Vla. *ff* *pp* *ff* *fff*

Vc. *ff* *pp* *ff* *fff*

Db. *ff* *fff*