

Abby's Song

Opera in 6 Tableaux

Tableau I: Diagnosis

Sergio Cervetti

Elizabeth Esris & Robert Esris

Molto Vivace (♩ = c. 88-90)

The musical score is arranged in systems. The first system includes Piccolo, Flute 1, Flute 2, Oboe 1, Oboe 2, English Horn, Clarinet in E♭, Clarinet in B♭ 1, Clarinet in B♭ 2, Bass Clarinet, Bassoon 1, Bassoon 2, Contrabassoon, Horn in F 1-2, Horn in F, Horn in F 3-4, Trumpet in B♭ 1, Trumpet in B♭ 2-3, Trombone 1, Trombone 2-3, Tuba, Timpani, Percussion (with Susp. Cymbal), Piano, Marimba, Xylophon, Abby, Seth, and Josh. The second system includes Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, and Contrabass. The score features complex rhythmic patterns, including triplets and sixteenth-note runs, and dynamic markings such as *ff* and *p*. A text box in the Bassoon 2 part provides stage directions: "As the lights go up, Abby is standing at center stage with a large book clutched to her chest. On a screen at the rear of the stage are huge, narrow letters spelling out the word 'Diagnosis'. Abby flips through the book intently. She wears white cotton gloves." The score concludes with a *Molto Vivace* tempo marking.

Abby's Song

This musical score is for the piece "Abby's Song" and is marked with a rehearsal cue "6" at the beginning. The score is arranged for a full orchestra and includes the following parts:

- Picc.** (Piccolo): Treble clef, playing a melodic line with triplets.
- Fl. 1 & 2** (Flutes): Treble clef, playing a melodic line with triplets.
- Ob. 1 & 2** (Oboes): Treble clef, playing a melodic line with triplets.
- Es. Cl.** (E-flat Clarinet): Treble clef, playing a melodic line with triplets.
- B. Cl.** (B-flat Clarinet): Treble clef, playing a melodic line with triplets.
- Bsn. 1 & 2** (Bassoons): Bass clef, playing a melodic line with triplets.
- C. Bn.** (C Bassoon): Bass clef, playing a melodic line with triplets.
- Hn. 1, 2, 3, 4** (Horns): Treble clef, playing a melodic line with triplets.
- Tbn. 1, 2, 3** (Trombones): Bass clef, playing a melodic line with triplets.
- Tuba**: Bass clef, playing a melodic line with triplets.
- Timp.** (Timpani): Bass clef, playing a melodic line with triplets.
- Vln. I & II** (Violins): Treble clef, playing a melodic line with triplets.
- Vla.** (Viola): Bass clef, playing a melodic line with triplets.
- Ve.** (Violoncello): Bass clef, playing a melodic line with triplets.
- Cb.** (Cello): Bass clef, playing a melodic line with triplets.

The score features various musical notations, including dynamics such as *ff* (fortissimo), articulation marks like accents and slurs, and performance instructions such as "A 2" and "8va". The piece is in a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature.

Un Poco Meno $\text{♩} = 76$

This musical score is for the piece "Abby's Song" in the tempo "Un Poco Meno" with a quarter note equal to 76 beats per minute. The score is arranged for a full orchestra and includes the following parts:

- Picc.** (Piccolo)
- Fl. 1** and **Fl. 2** (Flutes)
- Ob. 1** and **Ob. 2** (Oboes)
- E. Hn.** (English Horn)
- B. Cl.** (Bass Clarinet)
- Bsn. 1** and **Bsn. 2** (Bassoons)
- C. Bn.** (Contrabassoon)
- Hn. 1**, **Hn. 2**, **Hn. 3**, and **Hn. 4** (Horns)
- B \flat Tpt. 1**, **B \flat Tpt. 2**, and **B \flat Tpt. 3** (Bass Trombones)
- Tbn. 1**, **Tbn. 2**, and **Tbn. 3** (Trombones)
- Tuba**
- Timp.** (Timpani)
- Pno** (Piano)
- Mba** (Mellophone)
- Xyl.** (Xylophone)
- Vln. I** and **Vln. II** (Violins)
- Vla.** (Viola)
- Vc.** (Violoncello)
- Cb.** (Contrabass)

The score features complex rhythmic patterns, including triplets and sixteenth-note runs, particularly in the woodwind and percussion sections. Dynamic markings such as *ff* (fortissimo) and *f* (forte) are used throughout. The piece concludes with a final cadence in the strings.

Abby's Song

15

Picc. *f*

Fl. 1 *f* Fl.tongue

Fl. 2 *f* Fl.tongue

Es. Cl. *f* Fl.tongue

B♭ Cl. 1 *f*

B♭ Cl. 2 *f*

Bsn. 1 *mf*

Bsn. 2 *mf*

Pno *ff*

Mba

Xyl.

15

Abby

A men tal health pro fe ssio nal's hand book, A

Vc. *f* pizz.

Cb. *f*



23

Ob. 1 *f*

Ob. 2 *f*

B♭ Cl. 1 *f*

Bsn. 1 *f*

Bsn. 2 *f*

23

Abby

Dia gnos tic of Men tal Dis or ders.

23

Josh

Enter Josh stage right. He approaches Abby and waves to her. He is a young adult who seems comfortable with Abby. His dress is casual, a bit unkempt. His demeanor is unthreatening and kind. He stands near Abby. On screen "Asperger Syndrome"

As per ger syn drome

23

Vln. I

Vc. *f* pizz.

Cb. *f*

58

Hn. 1 2 3 4

Tbn. 1 2 3

Tuba

Seth

trou ble rea ding bo dy lan guage trou ble rea ding bo dy lan guage rea ding peo ple's fa ces, pe cu lia ri ties of

Vln. I II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

62

Timp.

Pno.

Seth

speech, re pea ted words or phra ses And lack of com mon sense Fas ci na tion with mi nu tia:

Vln. I II

Vla.

Vc. pizz.

Cb. pizz.

68 Faster ♩ = 98

B♭ Cl. I

B. Cl.

B♭ Tpt. I

Seth

the parts of a clock rail road sche dules tri via and facts, as tro no mi cal da ta

Vln. I II

Vc. arco

Cb. arco

Abby's Song

75

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B♭ Tpt. 1

Seth

Clum sy, awk ward mo ve ments. Ec cen tric weird be ha viour; some times they flap their hands!

75

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla. div. div. arco

Vc.

Cb.

80

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B. Cl.

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

C. Bn.

B♭ Tpt. 1

Tbn. 1

Tbn. 2

Tbn. 3

Pno

Mba

Seth

Re play strange bo dy mo tions, roll their

80

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Abby's Song

Faster ♩ = 98

89

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

1

Ob.

2

B. Cl.

1

Bsn.

2

C. Bn.

1

B♭ Tpt.

2

3

Pno

Xyl.

Seth

eyes, twirl their fingers no rhythm no rhythm when they dance!

89

Faster ♩ = 98

div.

div.

f

f

f

f

Gliss.

Abby's Song

95

Picc. *ff* 6

Fl. 1 *ff* 6

Fl. 2 *ff* 6

1 *ff* 6

Ob. 2 *ff* 6

E. Hn. *ff*

E♭ Cl. *ff*

1 *ff*

B♭ Cl. 2 *ff*

B. Cl. *ff*

1 *f*

Hn. 2 *f*

3

4

Pno *ff*

95

Abby They ob sess— They ob sess.

Seth They obsess They ob sess.

95

Josh They obsess They ob sess.

95

I *div.*

II *div.*

Vla. *div.*

Vc.

102

Picc. *f*

Fl. 1 *f*

Fl. 2 *f*

1 *f*

Ob. 2 *f*

E. Hn. *f* Fluttertongue

Es. Cl. *f* Fluttertongue

1 *f* Fluttertongue

B♭ Cl. 1 *f* Fluttertongue

2 *f* Fluttertongue

B. Cl. *f* Fluttertongue

102

Pno *fff*

Xyl. *mf*

Josh
 They ne ver look you in the eye They talk at you a bout dreams and maps and ther mos

102

I *f* div.

Vln. II *f* div.

Vc. *pizz.*

Cb. *pizz.*

107

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

1

B♭ Cl. 2

107

Josh
 tats and cuc koo clocks and snails, books, birds and slugs and spice and dra gon flies scales. They talk at you a bout

107

I *f* div.

Vln. II *f* div.

Vc. *pizz.*

Cb. *pizz.*

Abby's Song

112

Picc. *f*

Fl. 1 *f*

Fl. 2 *f*

1 *f*

Ob. 2 *f*

E♭ Cl. *f*

1 *f*

B♭ Cl. 2 *f*

1 *mf*

Hn. 2 *mf*

3

4

112

Josh *f*

spe cies of bats Re cord set ting heat waves and the fe ces of

112

I *f*

Vln. II *f*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *pizz.* *arco*

Cb. *pizz.*

Abby's Song

Un poco meno ♩ = 78

116

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

1

Ob. 2

Es. Cl.

1

B♭ Cl. 2

1

Bsn. 2

C. Bn.

Hn. 1 2

1

B♭ Tpt. 2 3

116

Pno

116

Mba

Xyl.

Seth

116

Josh

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

cats.

snails

Dreams and maps and ther mos tats and cuc koo clocks and snails

Dreams and maps and ther mos tats and cuc koo clocks and

arco

Abby's Song

119

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

1

Ob.

2

E. Hn.

E♭ Cl.

1

B♭ Cl.

2

1

B♭ Tpt.

2

3

Timp.

119

Pno

119

Mba

Xyl.

119

Abby

Dreams and maps and ther mos tats and cuc koo clocks and snails

Seth

119

Josh

119

I

Vln.

II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

121

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

1

Ob.

2

1

B♭ Cl.

2

B. Cl.

1

Bsn.

2

121

Pno

121

Mba

Xyl.

121

Abby

Seth

Dreams and maps and ther mos tats and cuc koo clocks and

Dreams and maps and ther mos tats and cuc koo clocks and

121

Josh

Dreams and maps and ther mos tats and cuc koo clocks and snails,

Dreams and maps and ther mos tats and cuc koo clocks and

121

I

Vln.

II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

134

Abby cats Cuc koo clocks and snails; slugs and spice and scales Dreams and birds and dra gon flies, Dreams and birds,

Seth cats Cuc koo clocks and snails. Dreams and birds and dra gon flies, Dreams and birds,

134 Josh cats Cuc koo clocks and snails. Dreams and birds and dra gon flies, Dreams and birds,

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

137

Bsn. 1

Bsn. 2

C. Bn.

137 Hn. 1 a 2

Hn. 2

Hn. 3

Hn. 4

1 B♭ Tpt.

2

3

137

Abby dra gon flies cuc koo clocks and snails. Almost in a frenzy.

Seth dra gon flies, cuc koo clocks and snails. Cuc koo clocks and snails slugs and spice and scales. spe cies of

137 Josh dra gon flies, cuc koo clocks and snails.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc. arco

Cb. arco

Abby's Song

140

Pic. *ff*

Fl. 1 *ff*

Fl. 2 *ff*

1 *ff*

Ob. 2 *ff*

E. Hn. *ff*

E♭ Cl. *ff*

1 *ff*

B♭ Cl. 2 *ff*

1 *ff*

Bsn. 2

C. Bn.

140

Hn. 1 2 3 4 *f*

B♭ Tpt. 1 2 3

Tbn. 1 2 3 *ff*

Tuba *ff*

Timp. *mf* *ff*

bats re cord set ting heat waves and the fe ces of

140

Vln. I *ff*

Vln. II *ff*

Vla. *ff*

Vc. *ff*

Cb.

145 Lento ♩ = 44

Hn. 1 2 3 4

B♭ Tpt. 1 2 3

Seth

cats. _____

Seth is momentarily locked in the rhythm of his tirade. He breaks free and shakes his head in disgust.

Mother

145

Vln. I II

Vla.

Vc.

div. a 3

div. a 3

div. a 3

div.

Cue Electronic Soundtrack

150

Mother

The Mother enters. Seth hands her the book and he turns to face the wings. His body language shows impatience. The Mother stands downstage and center. She opens the book and reads.

Child hood, child hood be gins (bocca chiusa)

150

Vln. I II

pp

160

Mother

li ke child hood with a pre cious li ttle life that fills you full of won der with a ba bbling voice

160

Vln. I II

Cb.

arco

pp

166

Mother

and her cheek u pon your breast With odd li ttle quirks and fu nny li ttle sto ries si lly fa ces and un i ma gined pla

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

pp

arco

169

Fl. 1

Mother

ces. Then o thersigns e merge. that first you think are sweet

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc. arco

Cb.

172

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

B♭ Cl. 1

Mother

they ne ver grow or change, they on ly get dar ker her

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

174

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Hn. 3

Hn. 4

Mother

world is filled in ways that you ne ver un der tand

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

176

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

Hn. 1

Hn. 2

Hn. 3

Hn. 4

p

pp

pp

176

Mother

176

And you ques tion you

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

178

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

178

wo rry You ques tion and you

178

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

179

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

1

Ob.

2

E. Hn.

Es. Cl.

1

B♭ Cl.

2

B. Cl.

1

Bsn.

2

C. Bn.

179

1

2

Hn.

3

4

1

B♭ Tpt.

2

3

1

Tbn.

2

3

Tuba

179

Pno

Mba

Xyl.

179

Mother

know A do les cence is pain ful A life long con di tion A life long con di tion

179

I

Vln.

II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

The Mother looks to Abby, then reads silently. Around Abby are flashes of vivid color -smattering of yellow, red and other vibrant shades. The rest of the stage is dark. Furtively, she takes off her gloves and throws them on the floor. Then she puts her hands to her mouth and pulls her shoulders up as she does, eyes wide, like a child who knows a secret. She waves her hands in the swirling