

Frank A. Wallace

Bestiary

for mezzosoprano, baritone and guitar, op. 20

Soprano

I. The Sloth *Theodore Roethke*

II. The Cow *Theodore Roethke*

III. The Lady and the Bear *Theodore Roethke*

IV. The Star-nosed Mole *Nancy Knowles*

V. The Snake *Theodore Roethke*

VI. The Serpent *Theodore Roethke*

Gyre Publications

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for Marleen

Bestiary

mezzosoprano, baritone and guitar

I. The Sloth

poems by Theodore Roethke

Frank A. Wallace, op. 20

December 2001

Grave ♩ = 44
6

Soprano

In mov - ing - slow he has no Peer. You

ask him some-thing in his Ear, thinks a - bout it for a Year: And,

be - fore he says a Word up-side down He will ass-ume that you have Heard—

A most Ex - as - per - at-ing Lug. He'll sigh and give his Branch a Hug;

Then off a-gain to Sleep he goes, Still Still Still sway-ing gent-ly by his Toes, And

you just know— Still sway-ing gent-ly you just know sway - ing gent-ly by his Toes,

A most Ex - as - per - at - ing Still Still Still sway-ing gent - ly by his Toes,—

he knows.

Andante ♩ = 66
10

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Allegretto ♩. = 92



Speak: "A Lady came to a Bear by a Stream." "O _____ why are you fish-ing that way? Tell me, dear Bear there by the



stream, why are you fish - ing that way?" "O it's



Won-der-ful how with a flick of your Wrist, You can fish out a fish, out a fish, out a fish, If I were a fish I just



could-n't re - sist _____ You, _____ when you are _____ fish-ing that _____ way that way."



And at that _____ the La-dy slipped from the Bank And fell in the

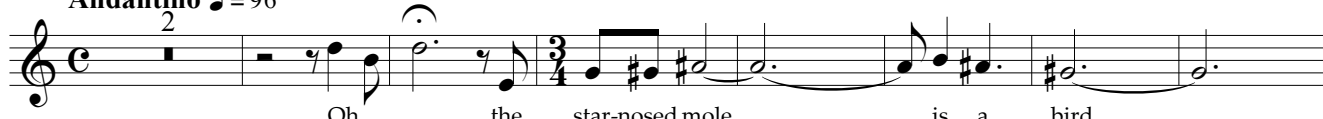


stream _____ still clutch-ing a Plank, As he went on _____ fish-ing his way, _____

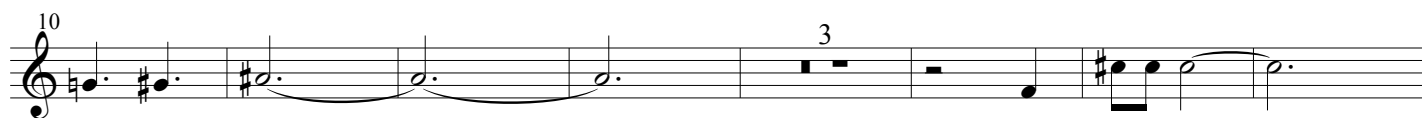


fish - ing his way, _____ his way, _____ fish-ing his way.

Andantino ♩. = 96



Oh _____ the star-nosed mole _____ is a bird _____



with a soul _____ for ra-ther than _____



sing _____ with a cheep cheep cheep _____ or swim _____



_____ in the o - cean so deep deep deep _____ un - der our



feet _____ he doth creep creep creep _____

ad libitum

Andantino $\text{♩} = 96$

7 6

mf There was a ser - pent who had ____ to sing.

10 He simp - ly gave up ser - pent - ing He did - n't like ____ his Kind of Life; He could - n't find a pro - per

15 Wife; He was a Ser - pent with a soul; no Plea - sure down his Hole. And so, of course,

24 ____ he had to Sing, had ____ to Sing, And Sing he did like An - y - thing!

29 *p* The ____ Birds they were, A - stound - ed; ____ And var - i - ous Meas - ures Pro - pound - ed

33 To stop ____ the Ser - pent's Aw - ful Rack - et: *mf* They bought a Drum. They, They, They,

41 They, (thump, thump) They sent, to Cu - ba And got a Most Com - mod - i - ous

50 Tu - ba; They [They, They] got a Horn, They got a got ____ a Horn, They got a Flute, *mf mp*

55 But No - thing would No - thing would No - thing would No - thing would No - thing would suit.

59 He said, And then he cut loose with a Hor - ri - ble Note That

64 prac - ti - cally split the Top of his Throat. And the Woods Re - sound -

70 - ed ____ Re - sound - ed ____ Re - sound - ed to the end of Next ____ Week. *clap*