

Frank A. Wallace

Bestiary

for mezzosoprano, baritone and guitar, op. 20

Baritone

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 $\text{♩} = 44$
4

In mov-ing-slow he has no Peer. You ask him some-thing
10 in his Ear, He thinks a - bout it for a Year: then,
17 There, (un-like a bird), will ass-ume have Heard— A most Ex-as-per - at-ing Lug.
25 But should you call his man-ner smug, a Hug; Then off a-gain to Sleep he
31 goes, Still sway-ing gent - ly by his Toes, gent - ly by his Toes, And you just know
36 he knows he knows he knows he knows. A most Ex-as-per-at-ing Lug. gent - ly
41 by his Toes, he knows.

Andante $\text{♩} = 66$

There Once was a Cow with a Dou-ble Ud-der. When I
7 think of it now, I just have to Shud-der! She was too much for One, you can bet your
12 Life: She had to be Milked by a Man and his Wife.

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Allegretto ♩ = 92

9
"I am what is known as a Bid-dly Bear, That's
15 why I'm fish-ing this way. We Bidd-ly's are Pee -
20 -cu-liar Bears, And so, I'm fish-ing this way." "And be - sides it seems there's a Law: A
24 most, most ex - ac - tious Law Says a Bear Does - n't dare Does - n't dare Does - n't
26 DARE Use a Hook or a Line, Or an old piece of Twine, Not e - ven the end of his Claw, Claw, Claw, Not
29 e - ven the end of his Claw. Yes, a Bear has to fish with his Paw, Paw, Paw. A
31 *molto ritardando* Bear has to fish with his Paw." But the
49 Bear just sat there un - til she Sank; As he went on As he went
53 on fish - ing his way, fish - ing his way.

Andantino ♩ = 96

ad libitum

Andantino ♩ = 96

speaking

mf There was There was There was There was

10 There was There was Be - cause. Be-cause. Be - cause. Kind of Life; _____

15
pro - per Wife; He got no Plea - sure down his Hole. And so, of course, he

24
had to Sing, had ___ to Sing, And Sing Sing ssssss *p* The Birds they were,

30
___ they were A-stound-ed; Pro-pound-ed To stop ___ the Ser-pent's Aw - ful Rack-et:

35
mf They bought a Drum. He would-n't Whack it. Whack it.

43
You al-ways send, And got a Most Com-mod-i-ous Tu - ba;

51
mp They got a Horn, They got ___ They got a They ___ got a Flute, But No - thing would

56
___ suit. No - thing would suit. *recitativo* "Look, Birds, all this is

61
fu-tile: ___ I do not like to Bang ___ or Too-tle." "You see," he said, with a

66
Ser - pent's Leer, "I'm Ser - i - ous a - bout my Sing - ing Ca - reer!"

69
And the Woods Re-sound-ed with man-y a Shriek As the Birds flew off ___ to the end of Next Week.

72
As the Birds flew off ___ to the end ___ of Next Week. Next Week. *clap*