

Piercing Sweet...Blinding Sweet

text from "A Musical Instrument"
by Elizabeth Barrett Browning

wispy, mysterious ♩ = 76

The musical score is arranged vertically with five staves. From top to bottom, they are: recitative (treble clef), flute (treble clef), voice (treble clef), cello (bass clef), and percussion (two staves, both with a double bar line). The flute and voice parts feature thick black lines representing sustained notes. The flute part includes a box labeled 'aeolian' and dynamic markings of *p* and *mf*. The voice part includes a box labeled 'voice', dynamic markings of *p*, *mp*, and *n*, and performance instructions: 'until you run out of breath' (with a curved arrow), and 'sharp breaths' (with three upward-pointing triangles). The cello part includes dynamic markings of *p*, *mf*, and *p*, and a 'sh' marking. The percussion staves are empty.

fl. *sharp breaths* *mf* *f* 3 2 3

vc. *f* *p* *f* *sharp breaths* 3 sh sh 3 sh sh sh sh 3 sh sh sh

perc. **bass drum** LH *mp* RH



fl. 4/4

vc. sh sh sh sh sh sh sh sh 3 sh sh sh sh sh sh

perc. **cello** *p* *ff* 4/4

perc. 3 *fp* *ff*

B

primordial ♩ = 94

recit. *ff* *long* *p* *f* *mf* *p*
 WHAT was he do-ing the great god Pan? down in the reeds by the

fl. *whisper/chant*
 the great god Pan the great god Pan the

vc. *tap the body* *whisper/chant*
p the great god Pan the great god Pan the

perc. *bass drum* *whisper/chant*
p the great god Pan the great god Pan the



recit. ri - ver?

fl. *p* *mf* *p* *until you run out of breath*

vc. *sh* *p* *f* *p* *until you run out of breath*

perc. *click rim* *click rim* *bass drum*
sfz *p* *gradually rit. until fl. and vc. are out of breath*

C

recit. *f* *mf* *f* *p sub.*
 Spread-ing ru-in and sca-tter-ing splash-ing and padd-ling with the hoo _____ fs! of a goat
overpressure *some tone* *ord.* *sul pont.* *molto*

vc. *f* *mp* *f*

perc. *mf* wood blocks

fl. *p* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp*
 key clicks

perc. *f*

recit. *p* *mf* *p* *f* *p* *mf* *pp*
 and brea-king the gol-den li-lies a-float with the dra-gon fly on the ri-ver. patiently
 c.p.p.

fl. *pp* *mp* *p* *melodica*

vc. *mp* *n*
 kazoo breathe as needed continue
 playing traditionally, bug buzzing sounds

≈10" ≈10" ≈10"

D

E

recit.

paper **consolidate*

He tore out a reed the great god Pan from the

fl.

p *f* *p*

vc. *cello* tap the body *whisper/chant*

p the great god Pan the great god the great god Pan the great god Pan the

perc. *bass drum* *whisper/chant*

p the great god Pan the great god Pan the great god Pan the great god

recit.

deep cool bed of the ri-ver: the bro-ken li-lies a dy-ing lay

fl.

f *p* *mf*

vc.

great god Pan the deep great god Pan the deep cool great god Pan the deep cool bed great god Pan a dy - ing dy - ing dy - ing dy - ing

perc.

Pan the great god Pan the deep great god Pan the deep cool great god Pan the deep cool bed great god Pan a dy - ing dy - ing dy - ing

recit. c.p.p.

fl.

and the dra-gon fly had fled a-way.



delicate ♩ = 80

recit. mf

High _____ on the _____ shore _____ sat Pan. _____

fl. melodica

p *mf* *p* *mf*

vc. *p* *sul G, molto sul pont.* *sul pont.* *ord.*

perc. mark tree *mf* *back and forth on upper portion of tree. Use wooden drum stick.* triangle *p*

confident

recit. He hacked and hewed as one can. With his hard bleak steel and pa-tient reed. till there was no sign of a

fl.

vc. overpressure (overpressure) no tone sfz

perc. brake drum mark tree p mf f p sub. f



recit. leaf in-deed to show it was from the ri-ver.

vc. f

perc. bass drum f mp mf

a tempo

recit. *mf*
Sweet sweet sweet O Pan!

fl. *flute* *breathy* → *norm.*
pp *mf* *mp* *p* *mp* *p* *mp* *p* *mf*

recit. *mp* *f* *≈10"*
The sun on the hill for - got to die! The li - lies re - vived, the dra - gon fly came back to dream on the ri - ver.

fl. *≈10"*

vc. *≈10"* *kazoo* *playing traditionally, bug buzzing sounds*
p *f*

recit. *mf* *f* *mf* *3*
Yet half a beast is the great god Pan, Ma-king a po - et out of man: the true gods sigh for the cost and pain for the

vc. *mf*

perc. *mf*

recit. *mp* c.p.p. *until you run out of breath*

reed which grows ne-ver more a - gain... as many low notes as you can fit in your mouth

fl. *whisper/chant*

ne-ver more a - gain ne-ver more a - gain ne-ver more a - gain ne-ver more a - gain ne-ver more a - gain ne-ver more

p *pp*

vc. *whisper/chant*

ne-ver more a - gain ne-ver more a - gain ne-ver more a - gain ne-ver more a - gain ne-ver more a - gain ne-ver more

p *pp*

perc. *whisper/chant*

ne-ver more a - gain ne-ver more a - gain ne-ver more a - gain ne-ver more a - gain ne-ver more a - gain ne-ver more

p *pp*

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for page 10 of a piece. It features four staves: recitation (recit.), flute (fl.), violin (vc.), and percussion (perc.). The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 4/4. The recitation part starts with a melodic line in 4/4, marked *mp*. It then transitions to a section marked 'c.p.p.' (crescendo pianissimo) with the instruction 'until you run out of breath', where the melody is held on a low note with a long, sweeping line. The flute, violin, and percussion parts enter with a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, marked *p* (piano). The lyrics 'ne-ver more a - gain' are repeated across all parts. The flute and violin parts have a *pp* (pianissimo) dynamic marking at the end of the section.