

Stone Soup

Toel Hoffman

1996

Stone Soup

for violin and narrator

to David Kim,
with appreciation

Stone Soup

Joel Hoffman
1996

Marche (deliberate, but not heavy)

Handwritten musical score for "Stone Soup" by Joel Hoffman, 1996. The score is written on ten staves in treble clef with a 5/4 time signature. It features various musical notations including notes, rests, and dynamic markings such as *f*, *mf*, *dim.*, *p*, and *f subito*. Performance instructions like "Arco" and "Pizz" are interspersed throughout the piece. The score includes a key signature change to one sharp (F#) and a time signature change to 6/4. The piece concludes with a final measure marked with a fermata and a "1" below it.

repeat this figure until the paragraph below is finished
(approx. 6x)

Once upon a very, very, very, VERY long time ago, there lived a wise old tramp. He lived in the hills, in the fields, and in the forests. He loved to breathe the fresh air, and it made him happy to be with all of the animals and plants that constantly surrounded him. He was quite content to spend day after day, night after night, in the company of just his few books and his clothes and the few other possessions that he could carry with him. He had very strong legs and loved to travel as far as his old feet would carry him.

↓ violin stops

He didn't need or care about most of the things that we like to have around us, like computers, bicycles, snacks, movies and TV; no, he was happy to explore whatever part of the world happened to be in front of his eyes.

But every now and then he did feel it was time for a nice warm bath and a comfortable bed.....and something good to eat.

pp tranquillo (text finishes)

* When this kind of feeling came, he would dig into one of the deep pockets in his long woolen coat, and extract a small, smooth, round stone. It was dark in color--somewhere between purple and black, with little gold flecks of light in it. This was no ordinary nice-looking stone: this was something rather special.....but, more about that later.

until "unusual for him." 8va
"After..." more rhapsodic (poco me)

One cold winter afternoon the tramp was feeling especially tired and maybe even a little lonely, which was unusual for him. After the sun had disappeared behind the trees of the thick forest, as the stars began to show themselves, he noticed a light off in the distance. His heart jumped just a bit, and he headed in that direction. Before too long, he was standing at the heavy wooden front door of an old house. By now it was very dark and the tramp was shivering a little. The air around his ears felt like ice. Even the stone in his pocket felt cold. He knocked firmly on the door and waited.

(8va)

until "and waited"
mf p 3

Nobody came, so after a few moments he tried again, and after a minute or so, yet another time. He was beginning to think about where to make a bed for himself in the forest when he noticed the door opening just a tiny crack.

Tempo I



mp sul ponticello

play once, then cue "Who is it...?" and then continue without pause 3 more times

"Who is it and what do you want?", he heard, not too clearly, from the other side of the door. It sounded as though this person was not too excited about the idea of a visitor.



Pizz (stesso tempo)

Arco

p

play twice

The tramp answered with a big and kind-hearted voice: "I am just an old tramp, and I would like to ask a very small favor."



mp sempre sul ponticello

3 x, then:

"I don't like tramps, and I certainly don't do them any favors." It seemed to be the voice of a woman, perhaps not so young.