Breathe Freely
A chamber opera in two short acts
Act 1
(in full score)

Words by Julian Wagstaff

Music by Julian Wagstaff

Time: 1943.
Place: An office within the Department of Chemistry at Edinburgh University.
It is tidy, but not immaculate. There is a desk, a lamp, a telephone and other furnishings, files, papers etc. appropriate to the era.

Pastoral (♩=65)

1

Miller

Hempel

Kendall

Clarinet in B♭

Violoncello

Piano

Sample only.
Not for performance use

Cl.

Vc.

Pno.

sub. p

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PROF. JAMES KENDALL enters. He goes to the desk but dis not sit down. He picks up the telephone receiver and dials a number...

2

3

Cl.

Vc.

Pno.

subito ***p***

f

p

ff

Sample only.
Not for performance use.

4 Poco Più mosso (♩=70)

5

Kendall

Kend.

Hel-lo Ritch- ie? Doc-tor Ritch - ie? Are you there? Damned te-le phone!

mf

sub. ***p***

6

Kend.

Al-ways play-ing up! Yes, Ken - dall here

Cl.

Vc.

Pno.

Sample only.

Not for performance use.

Kend.

I'm phon-ing re. the Pol-ish chap, Hem- pel, that's the one, quite a cove by all ac-

Cl.

Vc.

Pno.

7 **Poco agitato (𝅗𝅥=85)**

Kend. counts — In - deed, I think we should take him on — Now that you're peo - ple have

Cl. *f* *mf*

Vc. *f* *mf*

Pno. *f* *mf*

8

Kend. said he's clear — Quite so. — One can - not e - ver be too

Cl.

Vc.

Pno.

Sample only. Not for performance use.

9

Kend. care - ful "Mum's the word", and all of that! — of course I'll te - le -

Cl. *pp*

Vc. *pp*

Pno. *pp*

Kend.

phone to tell you how the meet-ing goes Bye for now Cheer - i - o!

Cl.

Vc.

Pno.

Sample only.

Not for performance use.

KENDALL leafs through some papers which are lying on the desk.

STANISLAW HEMPEL enters. KENDALL rises

10 Tempo primo (♩=65)

There is a kock at the door

Poco accel. - - - - 11 Poco più mosso (♩=75)

Kend.

Please, come in Ah,good day

Cl.

Vc.

Pno.

Sample only.
Not for performance use.

Kend.

good day, my dear chap. Have I the pleas - ure of add - ress - ing Doc-tor Stan - is - law Hem- pel?

Cl.

f

Vc.

mf *f*

Pno.

f

HEMPEL seems unsure of how to respond, but shakes KENDALL's hand nonetheless

KENDALL shakes HEMPEL's hand.

12

Hempel

Hemp.

Yes. Hem- pel. Good day to you.

Kendall

Kend.

Ken - dall, how do you

Cl.

p

Pno.

p

13 **Like a hymn (♩=70)**

Kend. do. I trust your jour - ney here was not too fraught, not too

Cl. *p*

Vc. *p*

Pno. *p*

Hemp. The train was ve - ry crowd-ed no seat at all till Ber-wick But Lond-on-

Kend. irk - some.

Cl. *p*

Vc.

Pno.

Sample only.

Not for performance use.

14

Hemp. Ed - in-burgh is not so bad I've seen far worse!

Kendall (a little more businesslike)

Kend. So I hear! And wel-come to our hum-ble

Cl. *mf*

Vc. *p*

Pno.

Sample only.

Not for performance use.

15 16

Kend. home, The Jam Fac-to - ry, As we like to joke Now won't you tell me please, how we here may

Cl. *f* *mf*

Vc. *f*

Pno. *f*

17 **With strength and purpose (♩=80)**

Hempel

Hemp. You know, I am cert - ain how my mo - ther coun - try

Kend. help you?

Cl. *mf*

Vc. *mf* sempre sim.

Pno. *mf*

Sample only.
Not for performance use.

18

Hemp. suf - fers. Po - land lies in tat - ters Her arm ies in

Cl. *p*

Vc. *p*

Pno. *p*

19

Hemp. ex - ile Hit - ler has de - clared us slaves Lit - tle more than

Cl. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

Pno. *mf*

Hemp. beasts With no need of high - er learn - ing Our

Cl. *f*

Vc. *f*

Pno. *f*

Sample only.
Not for performance use.

20

Hemp. sci-ence is to be des- troyed And our sci-ent-ists with it.

21

Our learn - ed so - ci - e - ties de-

Cl. *mf* *p*

Vc. *mf* *p*

Pno. *mf* *p*

Maestoso

22 **ma l'istesso tempo (♩=80)**

Hemp.

mo-lished And our books for bid - den. The dark - - est

night has come up - on us On the

Cl.

Vc.

Pno.

ten. *f*

Sample only.

Not for performance use.

23

24

Hemp.

land that I love On the peop - le I

Cl.

p

Vc.

p

Pno.

p

Sample only.

Not for performance use.

Hemp.

love On the fam - i - ly I love and miss so

Cl.

ff

Vc.

ff

Pno.

ff

25 **Martial, determined (♩=90)**

Hemp. dear - - - ly In Scot-land there is

Cl. *mf* *p*

Vc. *mf* *p* *mf*

Pno. *mf* *p* 3 *mf*

Sample only.

Not for performance use.

26

Hemp. hope Here you train Here you teach. And my spi - - rit

Cl.

Vc.

Pno. 3 3 3

Hemp.
ris - es With the pro - mise of our vic - to-ry And a
Cl.
Vc.
Pno.

27 28

Hemp.
hap - pi-er to - mo-rrow. Sir, Pro fes-sor, if I may You
Cl.
Vc.
Pno.

Hemp.
un - der - stand sci-ence, un-der-stand war And how the two may best com-bine I
Cl.
Pno.

Sample only.
Not for performance use.

29

30

Hemp.

wish to stu - dy chem-ist-ry here at your U - ni - ver - si - ty While in Po-land men of sci-ence starve and

Cl.

mf

Vc.

mf

3

(mf)

Pno.

mf

Sample only.

Not for performance use.

Hemp.

pe - rish in the camps In Ed - in - burgh we can____ en - sure_____ That

Cl.

f

sub. ***p***

Vc.

3

f

sub. ***p***

Pno.

f

sub. ***p***

3

31

32 **Moderately slow, measured 4 (♩=70)**

poco rall.

Hemp. Po - lish sci - ence does not die

Kend. Kendall

Sci-ence a- lone is a

Cl. *pp*

Vc. *pp* *p*

Pno. *pp* *p*

Sample only.

Not for performance use.

Kend. lux - u - ry in times such as these Know-ledge a - lone is use - less in

Cl. *mf* *mf*

Vc.

Pno.

33

Kend.

times such as these

Know-ledge must be put to use!

Cl.

mf

Vc.

mf

Pno.

mf

Sample only.

Not for performance use.

34 Hempel

Hemp.

Stu - dy and fight!

Kend.

Fire must be met with fire!

Stu - dy and fight!

Cl.

f

Vc.

f

Pno.

f

35

DR CHRISTINA MILLER enters

Hemp.

Stu-dy and fight!

That is what I seek

That is what I ask.

Kend.

Stu-dy and fight!

That is what you seek

That is what I ask. I be -

Cl.

ff

p

subito p

Vc.

ff *mp*

p

subito p

Pno.

f *ff* *mp*

p

sub. p

Sample only.

36

Not for performance use.

Hemp.

Kend.

lieve we can do both.

I be - lieve we must do both!

Com-eth the

Cl.

mf

Vc.

mf

Pno.

mf

37

Hemp.

Kend.

Cl.

Vc.

Pno.

hour com-eth the hour

hour com - eth the men com-eth the hour

f

f

f

Sample only.

Not for performance use.

poco rit.

Più mosso
(♩=90)

38

Miller

Com-eth the wo - man. The door was o - pen. Pro-fess-or

com - eth the men.

com - eth the men.

p

mp

subito p

mp

39

MILLER looks furtively at HEMPEL

Miller

Ken- dall, I must speak with you.

I mean a - lone.

Kendall

Kend.

Doc-tor Mill-er I'm all ears.

Cl.

Vc.

mp

Pno.

Sample only.

Not for performance use

40

Miller

Walls have ears!

Kend.

Wor-ry not, he's on our side.

Cl.

mp

Vc.

mp

p

41

L'istesso Tempo (♩=90)
Very strict tyme

(*p*)

Pno.

mp

mf

L.H.

Ped.

Miller

It con-cerns the work I'm do-ing for the min - ist - ry of war The de-

sim.

Pno.

42

Miller

tec-tion of pois-on gas - es in the small - est of meas - ures There are

Vc.

mf f

Pno.

f mf

Sample only.
Not for performance use.

43

Miller

prob-lems with the fer-rules with no re - li - a - ble seal not

Cl.

mf

Vc.

mf

Pno.

44

45

Miller

on - ly will de - tec - tion fail But tox - ins may es - cape En - dan - ger - ing the

Cl.

Vc.

pizz.

p

Pno.

p

Sample only.

Not for performance use.

46

Miller

lives of those who op - er - ate the syst - tem.

Kendall **(irritated)**

Kend.

With the great-est of re - spect what has that to do with

Cl.

p

pp

Vc.

Pno.

47

Miller

Miller: You have con - tacts, con - nec - tions, chan - nels that I lack. A

Kend.

Cl.: me?

Cl.: *mf*

Vc.: arco

Vc.: *mf*

Pno.: *mf*

Sample only.

Not for performance use.

48

49

Miller: word in the right ear will sure - ly lu - bri - cate sup - ply.

Kendall

Kend.: **(chuckling)**

Kend.: I think you o - ver_ es - ti - mate - my

Cl.

Vc.: *p*

Pno.: *p*

KENDALL realises, mildly embarrassed, that HEMPEL has been ignored in the above exchange...

Kend.

in - flu - ence, but I will see_ what I___ can_ do. May I pre - sent Doc-tor

Vc.

mf

Pno.

8va

mf

Sample only.

Not for performance use.

50

Miller

Miller

Hel - lo, I'm Doc - tor Mil - ler, Chris-

Kend.

Hem-pel, our col - league from Po - land.

Cl.

mf

Vc.

pizz. (w. piano)

mf

Pno.

(8)

8va

51

52

Miller

ti - na Cruik-shank Mil- ler.

Hemp.

Hempel

Lieu - ten - ant Doc - tor Hem - pel,

En - chant - é.

Cl.

p

Vc.

(pizz.)

p

Pno.

p

p

Sample only.
Not for performance use.

53 **Più mosso (♩=120)**
light, "heady"

Miller

I've ne - ver met an - y-one from Po - land be - fore. Is the lang - uage ve - ry strange?

Cl.

p

Vc.

arco

p

Pno.

p

54

55

Miller

Hempel

A bit like Ger- man? When I

Hemp.

For me it's ve - ry eas - y. Not at all!

Cl.

p

Vc.

p

Pno.

56

rit. 57 **Moderate waltz (♩=140)**

Miller

came to this place I was told to first learn Ger - man, so I did.

Cl.

Sample only.
Not for performance use.

Vc.

Pno.

f

58

Miller

'Der klein - e Hund'

Cl.

f *p*

Vc.

f

Pno.

p

59

Miller

(The litt - le dog) 'Der gross - e Baer'

Vc.

p

Pno.

60

Miller

(The great big bear) 'Sau - er - stoff',

Vc.

mp

Pno.

Sample only.
Not for performance use.

Miller

Ox - y - gen (lit - er - al - ly: "sour stuff")

Cl.

p

Vc.

Pno.

61

Miller: Nit - ro - gen: "Stick - stoff": stuff that suff - o - cates! The

Cl.: *mf* *f*

Vc.: *p* pizz. (w. piano) *f*

Pno.: *f*

62

Miller: lang - uage has a log - ic that is sat - is - fy - ing, yet e -

Cl.: *mf*

Vc.

Pno.: *sub. mf*

Sample only.
Not for performance use.

63

Miller: lu - sive Re - lent - less, yet po - ssessed of a com -

Cl.

Vc.: arco *mf*

Pno.

64

Miller: pell - ing in - ner beau - ty. Now my days are spent de - vis - ing

Cl.: p mf

Vc.: // pizz. pp mf

Pno.: p mf

65

Miller: meth - ods of de - tec - tion For pois - ons borne up - on the winds, To

Cl.: p

Vc.: (arco) mp

Pno.:

Sample only.
Not for performance use.

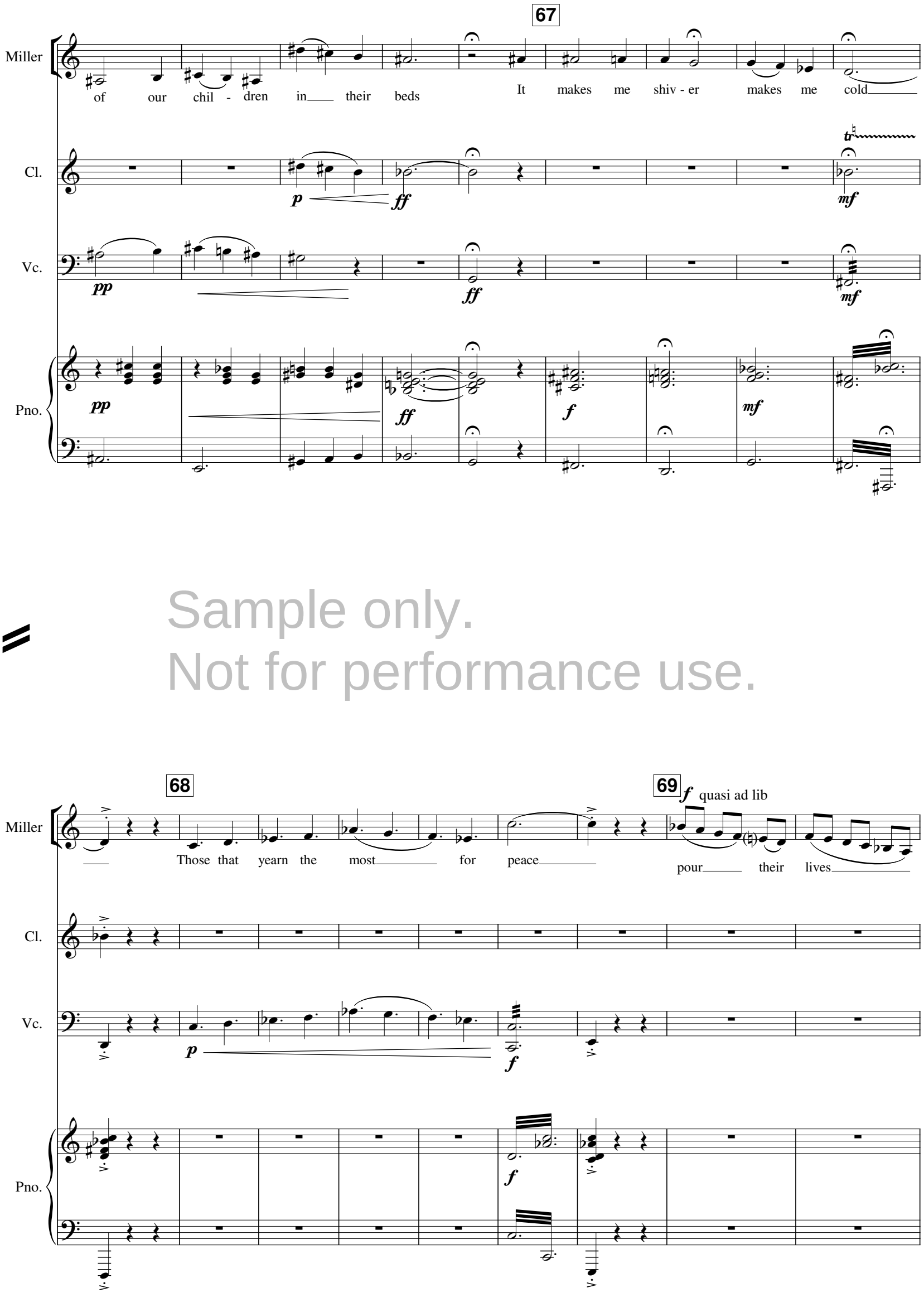
66

Miller: think that those whose rhymes I learned are plan - ning si - lent mur - der

Cl.:

Pno.:

Sample only.
Not for performance use.



70 71

(Miller)

Miller: in - - to war! Der klein - e Hund

Hemp.: Hempel Der

Kend.: Kendall Der

Cl.: tr ff mf

Vc.: ff mf

Pno.: ff mf

Sample only.

Not for performance use.

72

Miller: Der gross - e Baer Sau - er - stoff

Hemp.: klein - e Hund Der gross - e Baer

Kend.: klein - e Hund Der gross - e Baer

Cl.

Vc.

Pno.

73 74

Miller: Stick - stoff Stuff that suff -

Hemp.: Sau - er stoff Stick - stoff

Kend.: Sau - er stoff Stick - stoff

Cl.

Vc.: pizz. *p* *pp*

Pno.: *p* *pp*

75 **Poco agitato (♩=75)**

Miller: o - cates.

Kend.: This an -al - ys - is is ex-emp - la- ry,_ im-

Sample only. Not for performance use.

Cl.

Vc.: *ppp*

Pno.: *ppp* *mf*

76

Kend.: macc - u- late, flaw - less. Your sys-tem as I un - der-stand it will de - tect_ all know gas-es All known gas - es de-

Vc.: pizz. *mf*

Pno.

77

Kend.

ployed__ in war But what a - bout_ the un-known ones That is here_ the__ quest- ion.

Cl.

mf

Vc.

arco

Pno.

8va

78 **Slow 6/8 (♩.=50)**

Miller

Be - fore the war you wrote That we could all_____ breathe

Cl.

p dolce

Vc.

p

(8)

Pno.

p dolce

Sample only. Not for performance use.

79

Miller

free- ly, there would be no_____ new dan gers__ ev - ' ry com - bi - na - tion,__ ev - 'ry per - mu

Cl.

Vc.

Pno.

80

Miller: ta - tion of poss - i - ble com - pounds had_ been tried and our fears_ man - ip - u - lat - ed.

Cl.

Vc.

Pno.

81 82

Kend.: Con - text, con - text con - text_ is all. For what I wrote then, I had my rea - sons, for what I say

Cl.

Vc.

Pno.

Sample only
Not for performance use.

83

Kend.: now, I have_ them too. Would you, to day,_ speak Ger-man on the Four-Thir-ty to___ Kirk - al - dy?___

Cl.

Vc.

Pno.

84

85

Kend.

Lieu-ten-ant Hemp-el and his team will un-der-take work of the ut-most im-port-ance. We sus-pect the Naz-is have a

Cl.

Vc.

Pno.

86

Kend.

gas as yet un-known to us. We must be read-y to res-pond to each e-ven-tu-

Cl.

Vc.

Pno.

Sample only.
Not for performance use.

87

Kend.

al-i-ty, to res-pond with sure fin-a-li-ty as Win ston Church hill has said: Bet-ter safe than

Cl.

Vc.

Pno.

88 **Bold and stately (♩=80)**

Hemp. I am hon - oured by the trust you have placed in me. As a

Kend. sor - ry.

Cl. *p* *mf*

Vc. *p* *mf*

Pno. *p* *mf*

Sample only.

Not for performance use.

89 90

Hemp. mi - li - ta - ry man and a man of chem-ist - ry I shall work

Cl.

Vc.

sempre sim.

Pno.

91 **L'istesso tempo (♩=80)**

Hemp.
tire - less - ly to - wards this end.

Kend.
Kendall
Sci - ence will lead us to

Cl.
f

Vc.
f
pp

Pno.
f
pp

Sample only.
Not for performance use.

Miller
Sci-ence will pro-tect and keep us safe.

Kend.
vic - - to - ry

Cl.
ff

Vc.
ff
f
p

Pno.
ff
f
p

92

93

Hempel

Hemp. Sci-ence will de - li - ver us to li - ber - ty___ and_ bro - ther - hood.

Kendall

Kend. Sci - ence_ will

Cl. *p* *ff*

Vc. *pp*

Pno. *ff* *pp*

Sample only.
Not for performance use.

94

Miller

Miller Sci - ence will pro - tect and keep us

Hempel

Hemp. Sci - ence will de - li - ver, Sci - ence will de - li - ver,

Kend. lead us___ to Sci - ence_ will lead us___ to Sci - ence_ will lead us___ to

Cl. *subito p* *subito p*

Vc. *subito p* *p*

Pno. *sub. p* *sub. p*

95 **Poco agitato (♩=75)**
(Poco meno mosso)

Miller
safe!

Hemp.
us!

Kend.
Kendall
vic - - to - ry! Now, set to work both of you, and leave pro

Cl.
f *ff*

Vc.
f *ff*

Pno.
f *ff* *f*

Sample only.

Not for performance use.

96

Kend.
cure - ment to me. I need hard - ly re - mind you that dis - cre - tion is vit - al in all that we do.

Cl.

Vc.
pizz.
f

Pno.
p

KENDALL shakes hands with HEMPEL, who exits. He nods familiarly to MILLER who also exits. KENDALL then picks up the telephone receiver and dials a number...

97 **Poco meno mosso (♩=70)**

Kend.

Ritch - ie? Thought I'd phone a lit - tle up - date.

Cl.

p

Vc.

arco

mp

Pno.

Sample only.
Not for performance use.

98 **99**

Kend.

The Pol-ish chap seems just the tick - et. Quite the re - li a - ble sort. Yes. I've

Cl.

p

Vc.

p

Pno.