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THE PARDONER'S TALE: OPERA IN ONE ACT. [Original Composition]. (VOLUMES I AND II).

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Music

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THE PARDONER'S TALE:

OPERA IN ONE ACT

BY

JOHN S. DAVIS

VOLUME I

SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS

IN THE GRADUATE COLLEGE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA,

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I hereby recommend that this dissertation prepared under my
direction by John Stuart Davis
entitled The Pardoner's Tale: Opera in One Act

be accepted as fulfilling the dissertation requirement of the
degree of Doctor of Musical Arts

Robert J. McBratney, Dissertation Director

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SIGNED: [Signature]
CAST OF CHARACTERS

THREE ROGUES

THOMAS        TÉNOR
ABPSALON      BARITONE
NICHOLAS      BASS
OLD MAN       BARITONE
ALISON        SOPRANO

THE SCENE IS EUROPE; THE TIME IS INDETERMINATELY MEDIEVAL.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

To Sara,
Without whom the opera would neither have been started nor finished.

To Robert McBride,
Who smoothed the many rough spots.
THE PARDONER'S TALE

The Pardoner's Tale is an adaptation of an episode from Chaucer's Canterbury Tales. Three rogues, Thomas, Absalon and Nicholas seek Death to kill him. Finding gold instead, they abandon their quest for Death, only to find death at each other’s hands.

In order to fit the plot, the music is, in general, through-composed. Opening with a boisterous drinking song, the music gradually changes as the story becomes unreal and surrealistic. With only a few exceptions, there is no true recitative; rather, the action is accompanied by music written in an arioso style. The vocal lines conform to a tonal center which shifts rapidly.

While the opera does not use leitmotifs in the Wagnerian sense, there are several recurring themes associated with particular ideas. For example, the main theme of the opening drinking song, heard in various forms throughout the opera, is always associated with wine or drinking. Similarly, the "Death" theme, stated first with the sound of the funeral bell, recurs several times throughout the opera.

In keeping with the unreality of the language of the libretto, there is an occasional hiatus in the action which results in a static "set-piece". At this time, one or more singers take the spotlight to discuss their inner thoughts. Some of these are full-fledged arias, others short soliloquies. Alison sings about Death, Nicholas reflects upon his dead friend's youth and unreadiness for Death, while Thomas and Absalon sing a monotonous ostinato. Thomas has two real arias: the first, his declamation to Alison that he needs poison to kill the rats; the second, his musing on the prospective suffering of his friends as he mixes the wine with the poison.

There are two major ensembles in the opera. The drinking song is sung by the three rogues and is the first music heard. This piece, with its recurring tonalities of A-minor and C-major, sets the mood of coarse gaiety which characterizes the opening of the opera. The large ensemble, in which all the characters take part, is basically strophic. Each singer presents a section as a solo, then the sections are combined in various forms, finally ending with a homophonic closing section. Throughout this ensemble the accompaniment remains basically the same; however, each singer has a different melody with overlapping phrases.

There is one instrumental interlude, immediately after the three rogues have died and just before the Old Man appears to rifle their pockets. The orchestra follows the action up to this point, playing fragments of the foregoing music over an E-minor pedal point.

The closing song, "Black Swan of Death," sung by Alison and accompanied by trombone and clarinet, is a reprise in augmentation of her part in the large ensemble.
Here's good health to all who drink wine,
Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in Bb

Trombone

Perc.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

'Cello

Bass

Alison

Old Man

Thomas

Absalon

Nicholas

health to all who drink wine, to all who drink health to all who drink wine, to all who drink health to all who drink wine, to all who drink
Here's to the man that treads the wine, to all. Here's to the man that treads the wine, to all.
Here's to the maidens,
Here's to the maidens,
Here's to the maidens,
Here's to the maidens,
Here's to the maidens —

Here's to the maidens,
Here's to the maidens —

Here's to the maidens,
Here's to the maidens —

Here's to the maidens,
Here's to the maidens —

Here's to the maidens,
Here's to the maidens —
Drink to the moon,
Drink to the sky,
Drink to life.

Drink to the moon,
Drink to the sky,
Drink to life.

Drink to the moon,
Drink to the sky,
Drink to life.
Drink to Death!

Love-ly arms,

Love-ly eyes,
Here's to large and lovely hair!
Old Man

to

absalon

to

Nicholas

to

Thomas

to

Alison

Joab

to

315 Vine St. Hollywood, Calif

46-U

26
Drink to the man,
Abaaloa

Drink to the man,
young J

Drink to the man,

Breathless, alive and young!

Drink to the man,
and the grape, the elephant and the ape, to wine,
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
‘Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Abelson
Nicholas

What's that?
TShat's that?
A bell?
Flat

Darlin' Bb

FP Horn

In F

Trumpet in Bb

Trumpet

Trombone

Perc.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Bass

Alison

Old Man

Thomas

Absalon

Michelas

bell?

A funeral bell?
Someone has died, someone has died, who was it? Who
was a-live and now is dead? And is a-live no more?
And is a-live no more?
It was your friend of yesterday, John, with whom you drank and
Old Man

Thomas

Absalon

Nicholas

sang, John, with whom you shouted and staggered!
Yesterday was so very much alive,
So John is dead, so John is dead, so John is dead.

So John is dead, so John is dead, so John is dead.

So John is dead, so John is dead, so John is dead.
So John is dead. How did he die? He was...
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Violoncello (Cello)
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalon
Nicholas

young, as I am, He was strong, as I am; We spent yester-day to-gether, we were
so John is dead.
so John is dead.
so John is dead.

here last night, John drank too much, and went to sleep upon that bench there.
It was a healthy sleep. So John is dead!

So John is dead!
How did he die? How did he die?
Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in Bb

Trombone

Perc.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Bass

Alison

"fist young Death went creeping by"

Old Man

"and looked in yonder window"

Thomas

Absalon

Nicholas
while the moon was riding high.
Up on the bench there
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalon
Nicholas
lay John up on his back, Ah! Young Death had
Death bent and kissed away his


The Kiss of Death,
Alison

kiss of Death is sweet and cold.

The kiss of

Old Man

Thomas

Abusalon

Nicholas
Death is sweet and cold.
And as he shivered from the kiss of Death,
Death touched him with an icy fingertip and froze his breath.
Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in Bb

Trombones

Perc.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

'Cello

Bass

Alison

'twas with an icicle, an icicle through his heart

Old Man

Thomas

Absalon

Nicholas
Crescendo

Flute
Oboe
Bassoon
Clarinet in Bb
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
‘Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalon
Nicholas

...he died.  Death kills us all, the great and small,
The kiss of Death is sweet and cold.
The kiss of Death is sweet and cold,

You say that a kiss from

John received
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalom
Nicholas

Death and then he died? The only kiss I'll take from Death is here—on my back
This Death has gone far enough!
He's gone much too far!

Our good friend John!

God, he's gone much too far!

He killed our good friend John!

And
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombones
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalon
Nicholas

And we may be next!
And we may be next!
What shall we do?
What shall we do?
What shall we do?

Absalon, do?

What shall we do?

Nicholas, do?
Together we must go forth
Abaalon

Forth

must go

To-

gether-

we

must

forth

go

forth
To seek this rascal Death!
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalom
Nicholas

To seek this rascal Death!
Abaalon kills friends while they are sleeping.

Who kills our friends while they are sleeping.
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalon
Nicholas

Together we will seek Death, to-

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Together we will seek Death, to-
Take my hand, repeat what I say.
I swear by my
I swear by my father's blood,

I swear by my father's blood,

by my place in
Heav'n or Hell, to stay together
Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in Bb

Tuba

Perc.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

'Cello

Bass

Alison

Old Man

Thomas

Abel

Nicholas

as a brother stays with the brothers of his blood,
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombones
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Cello
Bassoon
Old Man
Thomas
Nicholas

"brother stays with the brothers of his blood,"
"brother stays with the brothers of his blood,"

unti I seek, find and
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalom
Nicholas

直至我寻求，找到并杀死死亡！

直至我寻求，找到并杀死死亡！

直至我寻求，找到并杀死死亡！
(Spoken) Now drink to...!
Together we're off to seek Death!

Together we're off to seek Death!

Together we're off to seek Death!
seek Death, to seek Death! As brothers, together we go!
then, when we find him, we’ll kill him!

We’ll
We'll kill him, we'll kill him!

We'll kill him, we'll kill him!
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Abel
Nicholas

Hey! Old toad! Come here and answer our questions!
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalon
Nicholas

...
Hold your tongue, slippery tongue, tongue, Tell us where we may find
safe from harm!
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalon
Nicholas

Death! Tell us where we may find Death!
We are seeking Death to
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalon
Nicholas

kill him! He has taken away our friends! And it's
We should kill...
We should kill him!

We should kill him!

Now tell us!
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Abalon
Nicholas

dite young men!
You ask me where you might find Death?
If I were younger I might show you myself! What makes you think that I should know what you are seeking?
Nicholas

A man as old as you are must have
And you must be near to
You're so ugly! You're so ugly! You're so ugly! You're so ugly! You're so ugly! You're so ugly!
Absalon
Nicholas

Tell us where to find him!

Old Man

So tell us where to find him!

Tell us

Alison

Thomas
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
‘Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Absalon
Nicholas

where to go to find Death!  Tell us now, or we will break your
Crescendo

Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in Bb

Trombone

Perc.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

‘Cello

Bass

Alison

Old Man

Thomas

Absalon

Nicholas

brittle bones black your bulging eyes! Black your bulging eyes! Black your bulging eyes!
Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in Bb

Trombone

Perc.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

'Cello

Bass

Alison

Old Man

You ask for Death? You'll find him!

Thomas

Absalon

Nicholas
Diminuendo

Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Eb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Eb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
' Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Abelson
Nicholas

Follow the road, perhaps for a mile,
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Gello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalon
Nicholas

side the road, a beechtree stands, a tall one,
Under the tree, well hidden from the road, there is a chest, in-
Rit.

a tempo

Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in Bb

Trombone

Perc.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

'Cello

Bass

Alison

Old Man

side the chest, waits Death!

Thomas

Absalon

Nicholas
Now go! Leave me a-lone!
gather, we're off to seek Death!

To

Alison

Old Man

Thomas

Nicholas

gather, we're off to seek Death!

To
seek Death, to seek Death

seek Death, to seek Death

seek Death, to seek Death
Faster

\[ \text{Flute} \]
\[ \text{Oboe} \]
\[ \text{Clarinet in Bb} \]
\[ \text{Bassoon} \]
\[ \text{Horn in F} \]
\[ \text{Trumpet in Bb} \]
\[ \text{Trombone} \]
\[ \text{Perc.} \]
\[ \text{Violin I} \]
\[ \text{Violin II} \]
\[ \text{Viola} \]
\[ \text{V-Cello} \]
\[ \text{Bass} \]
\[ \text{Alison} \]
\[ \text{Old Man} \]
\[ \text{Thomas} \]
\[ \text{Absalon} \]
\[ \text{Nicholas} \]

We've come about a mile.

There, the beechtree!
And now to Find...
We're rich!
For us to find!

A fortune waiting here!
Gold will buy wine for our thirsty throats!
Gold will buy clothes for our ragged backs!

for our hungry bellies!
Our clothes be of finest
will

We’ll stock it with rich
food!

We’ll buy a castle filled with
wine!
Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in Bb

Trombone

Perc.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

'Cello

Bass

Alison

Old Man

Thomas

Absalon

Nicholas
we go riding thru the town on milk white horses!

we go riding thru the town on milk white horses!

we go riding thru the town on milk white horses!
maiden will see our fat
purses! And our silk-
en
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man

Text:

Absalon clothes and our well-fed air!

Nicholas clothes and our well-fed air!

I'll have a different
And I'll have two!

wo-man ev'-ry day!

And I'll have ten!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Flute</th>
<th>Oboe</th>
<th>Clarinet in Bb</th>
<th>Bassoon</th>
<th>Horn in F</th>
<th>Trumpet in Bb</th>
<th>Trombone</th>
<th>Perc.</th>
<th>Violin I</th>
<th>Violin II</th>
<th>Viola</th>
<th>'Cello</th>
<th>Bass</th>
<th>Alison</th>
<th>Old Man</th>
<th>Thomas</th>
<th>Absalon</th>
<th>Nicholas</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

*No, not that young, you're not that young!*

You're not that young!
Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in Bb

Trombone

Perc.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

'Cello

Bass

Alison

Old Man

Thomas

Absolon

Nicholas

But wait! We
can-not take this by light of day.

There may be thieves and robbers on the
way!

We'll wait 'til dark, and by the moon's dim light,

We'll
Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in Bb

Trombone

Perc.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Bass

Alison

Old Man

Thomas

Absalon

Nicholas

---

take our wondrous fortune home, by night!  But now we're hungry!
One of us must go,
Fetch wine and bread from town.
The other
two must stay, and guard the treasure from all harm.
I'll stay!

Who would go, and who would stay?
And so would I!
We must draw lots to see.
Here are three strains, one short, two long. The short strain takes the highroad.
back to town, and buys good wine, and plenty of it!
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Abalon
Nicholas

well as bread and cheese! The long straw, there are two, they both shall
Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in Bb

Trombones

Perc.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Bass

Alison

Old Man

Thomas

Absalon

Nicholas

stay and watch the chest & count the gold & keep it safe until the
short straw has returned. Now draw!
THE PARDONER'S TALE:

OPERA IN ONE ACT

BY

JOHN S. DAVIS

VOLUME II
I have a long straw, what have you?
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Gallo
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalon
Nicholas

I'll go, I won't be long. Give me a piece of gold to stay.
Slow

accelerando molto

Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Gello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalon
Nicholas

I return.
Both my brothers, Wait for my return.
If all that gold were mine alone,

Absalon

Nicholas
I'd be as rich as on a throne.
If all that gold were mine a-lone,
I'd be as rich as on a throne.
When Thomas returns from the village with the sack.
We'll stab him with our knives from the front and the back.
When Thomas returns from the village with the sack,

With the sack,
We'll stab him with our knives from the front and the back.

And the back.
If all that gold were mine alone,

With the sack.

When Thomas returns from the village with the sack,
Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in Bb

Trombone

Perc.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Bass

Alison

Old Man

Thomas

Absalon

Nicholas

We'll stab him with our knives from the front and the back.

I'd be as rich as on a throne.

From the back.
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
‘Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalon
Nicholas

Thomas

Absalon

Nicholas

If all that
gold were mine a-
lone,

When Thomas re-
turns from the village with the sack,

With the sack.
I'd be as rich as on a throne.

We'll stab him with our knives from the front and the back.

And the back.
Flute
Clarinet in Bb
Viola
Cello
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Tuba
Baritone
Bassoon
Clarinet in Eb
Oboe
Flute
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Per.:
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalom
Nicholas

stretched.

Soft black mother's arms
Flute
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Viola
'Cello
Bass
Alison
soft and warm, 
Old Man
Thomas
Absalon
Nicholas
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalon
Nicholas

Death comes slowly, Death comes slowly to the
Alison walks with pride, Death comes softly, Death comes...
Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in Bb

Trombone

Perc.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Bass

Alison

Old Man
died, to the humble man who has died.

Thomas

Absalon

Nicholas
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalon
Nicholas

Black swan of Death with her soft wings out—

Death comes slowly, Death comes slowly, to the

If all that gold were mine alone,

When Thomas returns from the village, the sack.
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalon
Nicholas

We'll stab him with our knives from the front and the back.

stretched.
Soft black mother's arms,
man who walks with pride.
Death comes softly, Death comes
I'd be as rich as on a throne.

"d," 179

53124 1527 Hollywood, Calif.
Old Man

If all that gold were mine alone,

Ah, Death comes softly to the humble man who has

softly, Death comes softly to the humble man who has

soft and warm, soft and warm,

When Thomas returns from the village with the sack,

With the sack.
We'll stab him with our knives from the front and the back.

Old Man died, to the humble man who has died.

I'd be as rich as on a throne.
"Death comes to all of us, Death comes to all of us, Death comes to all of us, Death comes to all of us, Death comes to all of us, Death comes to all of us, Death comes to all of us, Death comes to all of us, Death comes to all of us, Death comes to all of us, Death comes to all of us, Death comes to all of us.

Alison

Old Man

Thomas

Abel

Nicholas
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalon
Nicholas

Death comes to all,
To
Death comes to all,
To
Death comes to all,
To
Death comes to all,
To
Death comes to all,
To
Well, young lad, back so
Your purse is fat, I see. Speak up! What do you want?
Ev'ry thing you see sells for a price, Myself as well. A
fair price too, I'll say! What is your pleasure?
Bring me wine to help me think, I am my strongest when I drink.
It's true that wine will help you

I am my strongest when I drink!
Alison and the soft
Old Man
Thomas
Absalon
Nicholas

think, and food as well, and always the soft

Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cello
Bass

Alison

55

Slower

55

Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cello
Bass

Alison

55

Slower

55

Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cello
Bass

Alison

55

Slower

55

Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cello
Bass

Alison

55

Slower

55

Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cello
Bass

Alison

55

Slower

55

Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cello
Bass

Alison

55

Slower

55

Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cello
Bass

Alison

55

Slower

55

Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cello
Bass

Alison

55

Slower

55

Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cello
Bass

Alison

55

Slower

55

Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cello
Bass

Alison

55

Slower

55

Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cello
Bass

Alison

55

Slower

55

Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cello
Bass

Alison

55

Slower

55

Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cello
Bass

Alison
hands and gentle kisses of young maid—
a tempo

Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in Bb

Trombone

Perc.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

'Cello

Bass

Alison

Old Man

Thomas

Absalom

Nicholas

ens.
And now what else?
Be quick!

I want two loaves of
bread and a cheese, your best one! And then give me two bottles of your finest wine,
one quite large, the other very small, And something more...
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Abelson
Nicholas

I want some poison for the rats! The rats that infest my house!
I want some poison for the rats, the rats that infest my house! They eat my...
food, they gnaw my clothes, they kill my chickens on the roost! At night I
Flute
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Abesalon
Nicholas

running on the post, running on the walls, running on the floor underneath my bed.
Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Eb

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in Bb

Trombone

Perc.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

'Cello

Bass

Alison

Old Man

Thomas

Absalon

Nicholas

Rats, running, running in my house, rats, running under-neath my bed!
58 ∫ ∫ (∧ 120)

Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in Bb

Trombone

Perc.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

'Cello

Bass

Alison

Old Man

Thomas

Absalom

Nicholas

Creating around us and squealing, running and breathing and dripping,
fighting and tearing and staring and biting and chasing!

fighting and tearing and staring and biting and chasing!

fighting and tearing and staring and biting and chasing!

fighting and tearing and staring and biting and chasing!

fighting and tearing and staring and biting and chasing!

fighting and tearing and staring and biting and chasing!

fighting and tearing and staring and biting and chasing!

fighting and tearing and staring and biting and chasing!

fighting and tearing and staring and biting and chasing!

fighting and tearing and staring and biting and chasing!

fighting and tearing and staring and biting and chasing!

fighting and tearing and staring and biting and chasing!

fighting and tearing and staring and biting and chasing!

fighting and tearing and staring and biting and chasing!

fighting and tearing and staring and biting and chasing!

fighting and tearing and staring and biting and chasing!
rats, the rats that infest my house!
I want some poison for the
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Abalson
Nicholas

rate, the rats that infest my house!
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
‘Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalon
Nicholas
Poison for the rats?
There is a good one!
I have it here! It's deadly to a rat. One taste of just a
A tiny piece of bread soaked in a tub of water and a pennyweight
of this powder, a rat will die before he has time to try a second
If you should it fast and as deadly to a taste, You must take care; it is as fast and as deadly to a man. If you should it touch.
to your tongue, dead before your eyes could close!
Now, young lad! What else would you have?

Two loaves of bread and a
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cello
Bass

Alison old Van Thomas Abaalon Nicholas

cheese, my best one! Two bottles of my finest wine, one quite large.
the other very small, and this, to rid you of your...
Ah! to rid you of your rats,
This is enough for me.
And this, I think should be enough for you.
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cella
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalon
Nicholas
Slower  
\( \dot{\text{j}} = 60 \)

Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in Bb

Trombone

Perc.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

'Cello

Bass

Alison

Old Man

Thomas

Absalon

Nicholas

It's gold!  
Enough to buy ten times the lot!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instrument</th>
<th>Music Notation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flute</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oboe</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarinet in Bb</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bassoon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horn in F</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trumpet in Bb</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trombone</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perc.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violin I</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violin II</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Viola</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'Cello</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bass</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alison</td>
<td>I wonder how the lad's become so rich?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old Man</td>
<td>Ah! If it's real, I can't come-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Absalon</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicholas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Here in the forest, among the flowers,
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Abalon
Nicholas

be-nath the scarlet moon, they both shall die, they both shall
die, they both shall die.

The moon is scarlet, the moon is
scarlet, the dying moon is the sol\- or of fresh spilled blood,
Slower

Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in Bb

Trombone

Perc.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

'Cello

Bass

Alison

Old Man

Thomas

Absalon

Nicholas

fresh killed blood, fresh, spilled blood

Deep in the
for- est dying birds cry, crying birds, flying birds,
Mix the wine with the poison! Mix the wine with the poison!
### Score Details

- **Flute**
- **Oboe**
- **Clarinet in Bb**
- **Bassoon**
- **Horn in F**
- **Trumpet in Bb**
- **Trombone**
- **Perc.**
- **Violin I**
- **Violin II**
- **Viola**
- **Cello**
- **Bass**
- **Alison**
- **Old Man**
- **Thomas**
- **Absalon**
- **Nicholas**

---

### Text Overlay

- *One for Nicholas The Spark* He'll stay forever in the dark!
What a pretty shade of red! I'll be rich when they are dead!
Here's a drop for Absalon!

I won't mourn him when he's gone!
Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in Bb

Trombone

Perc.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Bass

Alison

Old Man

Thomas

Absalon

Nicholas

Drinks for the two of them, drinks and Death! Death for the
Pain and Death for the both of them, pain and Death for the both of them!
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalon
Nicholas
The trees are scarlet with their blood. The trees are scarlet with their blood.
with their blood! Their tongues shall be cold,
Their eyes shall
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Abelon
Nicholas
Get ready! I hear him
Flute
Oboe
Clarinets in E-flat
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in E-flat
Trombone
Percussion
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalom
Nicholas

Thom- as i
Is that you?
Here I am with wine and bread and cheese. Where's Absalon?

I'm here.
We thought you might be someone else, and so we bared our blades, pre-
Slow a tempo

Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in Bb

Trombone

Perc.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Bass

Alison

Old Man

Thomas

Abealon

Nicholas

par-ing to de-fend the treasure if we need-ed to.
it was only me! Come! Eat! Drink!
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalon
Nicholas

I've brought fresh bread and ripened cheese and wine!
Nothing
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalom
Nicholas

but the best is good enough for my two brothers!
Together we will eat and drink, and later we will
The old man was right! We'd find our deaths with-
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
 Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Viole
Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas in the chest,
Abaslon
Nicholas

I'm finding mine...

My
Flute

Obœ

Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in Bb

Trombone

Perc.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Bass

Alison

Old Man

Thomas

Absalon

Nicholas

life runs out my back... it's dark, it's dark, my
eyes are open but the darkness grows...
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalon
Nicholas
And now the treasure is all ours! To be divided into
Clarinet in B♭
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in B♭
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalon
Nicholas

equal parts between us.
Let's take this wine and drink a toast to riches and a long and happy
Let's drink to his departed soul as well.
Perhaps we'll speed it on its way to Hell! (spoken) To Thomas!
May he watch from somewhere else, while we who remain here on
Absalon and have a glorious time with it!
(spoken) To Thomas! May his gold be spent by someone wiser than he,
Faster

Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in Bb

Trombone

Perc.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

'Cello

Bass

Alison

Old Man

Thomas

Absalom

Nicholas

and his...

Don't drink it all, you lout!
Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in Bb

Trombone

Perc.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

'Celli

Bass

Alison

Old Man

Thomas

Absalon

Nicholas

Give it to me!
Ah! That's good wine!
'Call

Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalon
Nicholas

You're right!
My throat's a-fire! What's happening to me?
I know what happened! That old man has spoken the truth,
We three were seeking Death...
and underneath the beech-tree.
Within the chest, we've found it... Death...
No! I won't die! No! Death is for the
old, Death is for the weak!
I'm young!
And strong!
Death can look somewhere else!

Death can look somewhere else!
Death can look somewhere else!
Very slow

Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in Bb

Trombone

Perc.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Viola

Cellos

Bass

Alison

Old Man

Thomas

Absalon

Nicholas

will not...
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Eb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalon
Nicholas
I know these men, I knew these
You give them gold, they'll find their deaths themselves. You give them
Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in Bb

Trombone

Perc.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

'Cello

Bass

Alison

Old Man

gold, they'll find their deaths. selves.

Thomas

Absalon

Nicholas
Now for a little gold, I don't need much. I'm an old, old man...
I'll take a little gold!

Now for a little bread, I
don't need much, I'm an

Absalon

Nicholas
old; old man... I'll take a little gold and a little bread, and of
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Eb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalon
Nicholas

Course a little wine, I don't need much! I'm an old, old man...
311

I'll take a little gold & a little bread...

I 'U take a little gold & a little bread.

Nicholas
And just a little bit of wine.
I'm not that old!
Death comes
Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in Bb

Trombone

Perc.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Bass

Alison

Old Man

slowly, Death comes slowly to the man who walks with

Thomas

Absalon

Nicholas
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
`Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalon
Nicholas

soft- ly,

Death comes

pride. Death comes soft- ly, Death comes soft- ly, Death comes
to the humble man who has died,
Horn in F
died

Old Man
humble man who has died!

My throat is parched!

Absalon

Nicholas

Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Cello
Bass
Alison

1527 Vine St. Hollywood, Calif.
From walking & from singing, perhaps I'll have a drop of wine... It's
I talk too fartuncta that I brought it, I've always been...
much! And talking too what dries my throat. (Drinks) But
Rit.

Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in Bb

Trombone

Perc.

Violin I

Pizz.

Violin II

Pizz.

Viola

Pizz.

Cello

Pizz.

Bass

Alison

Old Man

Talking to myself is all I do, except when loudmouthed rascals pass me by, like those late rogues, that

Thomas

Absalon

Nicholas
Is this old age that dries my throat?
this the heat of day that dries my mouth? Is this oncoming night that dims my eyes?
Is this the painful grip of age that shakes my bones? The pain I've felt before,
for all pain's more or less the same...and now my eyesight's almost gone, and
now my legs are giving way...
and now I know who you are lurking there...
Black swan of Death with her soft wings outstretched.
Flute

Oboe

Clarinet in Bb

Bassoon

Horn in F

Trumpet in Bb

Trombone

Perc.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Bass

Alison

Old Man

Thomas

Absalon

Nicholas

---

Soft and black mother's arms, soft and warm, Ah! Soft and
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombones
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
'Hello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Abasen
Nikelas

End of the Opera
Is this the painful grip of age that shakes my bones? The pain I've felt before,
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absolon
Nicholas

for all pain's more or less the same...and now my eyesight's almost gone, and
"now my legs are giving way... and now I know who you are lurking there..."
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet in Bb
Bassoon
Horn in F
Trumpet in Bb
Trombone
Perc.
Violin I
Violin II
Viola
‘Cello
Bass
Alison
Old Man
Thomas
Absalon
Nicholas

Black swan of Death with her soft wings out-stretched.
Soft black mother's arms, soft and warm, Ah! Soft and
End of the Opera