

The Arranger

Shirl Jae Atwell earned a bachelor of music education degree from Kansas State Teachers College and master of music theory/composition degree from the University of Louisville and completed four years of post-graduate work in composition at the University of South Carolina.

An active composer with many commissions and publications to her credit, Ms. Atwell was named the 1996 winner of the National School Orchestra Association composition contest with her string orchestra piece *Modus à 4*. She is also the 1997 winner of the Texas Orchestra Directors Association contest with a string orchestra piece entitled *Drifen*. Most recently, *Lucy*, with music by Ms. Atwell and choreography by Alun Jones, was premiered by the Louisville Ballet in January 1999. *Lucy*, which was inspired by the discovery of a 3.2 million-year old skeleton, was the subject of a Kentucky Education Television documentary that was aired on Nov. 10, 1999.

In June 2000, the televised production of *Lucy* was awarded the Arts & Culture Emmy by the Ohio Valley Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences. In July, a Certificate of Merit was awarded to *Lucy* by Unda-USA, the National Catholic Association for Communicators. In January 2001, *Lucy* was awarded 2nd place by the National Education Television Association for program performance. In 2002, the Greensboro Symphony Orchestra of North Carolina recorded the music to the ballet *Lucy* which is now available on Albany Records. The compact disc also includes the orchestral suite *Movements Four South*, and three string orchestra works: *Pulsar*, *Meander*, and *Drifen*.

Ms. Atwell serves as a full-time string orchestra educator with the Jefferson County Public Schools, Louisville, Kentucky. She maintains active membership in ASCAP, Music Educators National Conference, ASTA with NSOA, Texas Orchestra Directors Association, and Kentucky Music Educators Association.

The Composition

Dabbling in the Dew is a light-hearted, fun English folksong dating back to the fourteenth century. It is composed in the style of a call/response song. It is correlated to *Artistry in Strings Book 1, Unit IV*.

The melody, measures 11-18, 27-34, and 44-50, is comprised of two 4-measure phrases. To maintain the Allegro tempo, eighth notes should always move forward to the next beat, but not in a rushing manner. Each note of the slur must be treated equally and smoothly. The bowings indicated provide the desired continuity and the dynamics emphasize the relationship between the melodic material, counter-melodies, and harmonic accompaniment.

This is a wonderful folksong and as your students become more secure with the notes and rhythms, the interplay between the parts will become evident and will reveal its true delight.

Instrumentation List (Set C)

- 8 – 1st Violin
- 8 – 2nd Violin
- 5 – 3rd Violin (Viola T.C.)
- 5 – Viola
- 5 – Cello
- 5 – Double Bass
- 1 – Piano (Optional)
- 1 – Full Conductor Score

Additional scores and parts are available.

DABBLING IN THE DEW

Full Conductor Score
Approx. time – 1:45

English Folksong
Arranged by Shirl Jae Atwell

Allegro (♩ = 112-126)

The score is arranged in two systems. The first system includes Violins (1 and 2), Viola, Cello, Double Bass, and Piano (optional). The second system includes Vlns. (1 and 2), Vla., Cello, D. Bass, and Piano. The music is in 4/4 time and marked *f* (forte). The tempo is **Allegro** with a quarter note equal to 112-126 beats per minute. A large 'SAMPLE' watermark is overlaid on the score. A box with the number '5' is present in the first system, and a box with the number '6' is at the beginning of the second system. Various performance markings such as *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *V* (breath mark) are included.

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11

1 2 3 12 13 14⁴

Vlns. 1

Vlns. 2

Vla.

Cello

D. Bass

mp

LP

MP

11

Piano

mp

15

16 17 18

Vlns. 1

Vlns. 2

Vla.

Cello

D. Bass

15

Piano

19 20 21 22 V

Vins. 1 *f*

Vins. 2

Vla. 4

Cello *mf*

D. Bass *mf* 2 0 4

Piano *mf*

23 24 25 26 V

Vins. 1 *f*

Vins. 2 *f*

Vla. *f*

Cello *f* *mf* V

D. Bass *f* *mf* V

Piano *f* *mf*

37 4 38 39 40 4 41 4

Vlns. 1

Vlns. 2

Vla.

Cello

D. Bass

Piano

42 43 44 V 45 46 4 0 V

Vlns. 1

Vlns. 2

Vla.

Cello

D. Bass

Piano

4 1

43

47 48 49 50

Vlns. 1 2

Vla.

Cello

D. Bass

Piano

51 52 53 54

Vlns. 1 2

Vla.

Cello

D. Bass

Piano

mp *mf*