

An Old Man

(SSMMAA version)

Edward Lear (1812-1888)

Cheryl Lynn Helm

(almost too) *Sweetly* ♩ = 100

Soprano 1
Soprano 2
Mezzo 1
Mezzo 2
Alto 1
Alto 2

S 1
S 2
M 1
M 2
A 1
A 2

Note: This is a whimsical song. Much fun should be had in the first two onomatopaeic sections (mm. 14-19 and mm. 29-34). Measures 19 and 34 may be repeated ad nauseum; individual singers may alter their own tempos and/or pitches—if desired—for a cacophonous, disorderly effect. HOWEVER: the last such section (mm. 52-57) should be sung as written, without improvisation. The sounds made in the onomatopaeic measures are imitations of chickens, owls (and other birds), bees buzzing, and finally soft la-las as one would use to soothe a baby (thank you Joh. Brahms).

S 1 *mf* Two Owls and a Hen, four Larks and a Wren, Have

S 2 *mp* said "It is just as I feared! Two Owls and a Hen, four Larks and a Wren, Have—

M 1 *mp* Two Owls and a Hen, four Larks and a Wren, Have—

M 2 *mp* Two Owls and a Hen, four Larks and a Wren, Have—

A 1

A 2

S 1 *rit.* all built their nests in my beard!" *sfz* Ah

S 2 *rit.* all built their nests in my beard!" *sfz* Ah

M 1 *rit.* all built their nests in my beard!" *sfz* Ah

M 2 *rit.* all built their nests in my beard!" Ah

A 1 *pp* hoo hoo

A 2 *pp* hoo hoo hoo hoo

16 *p* *mp* *mf*

S 1 dee - deet dee - deet dee - deet dee - deet dee - deet dee - deet

S 2 *p* *mp* *mf*
loo - loo loo - loo loo - loo loo - loo loo - loo

M 1 *mf*
buk buk, buk, buk buk, buk,

M 2 *mp* *mf*
buk, buk buk, buk, buk buk, buk, buk buk,

A 1 *p* *mp* *mf*
hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo

A 2 *p* *mp* *mf*
hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo hoo

(mm 19 may be repeated and improvised)

19 *f* *cresc.* *mf*

S 1 dee - deet dee - deet (pitch pipe) "Have all built their nests in my beard!"

S 2 *f* *cresc.* *mf* "Have all built their nests in my beard!"

M 1 *f* *cresc.* *mf* buk buk, buk, buk buk, buk, "Have all built their nests in my beard!" There

M 2 *f* *cresc.* *mf* buk, buk buk, buk, buk, "Have all built their nests in my beard!"

A 1 *f* *cresc.* hoo hoo Ooo

A 2 *f* *cresc.* hoo hoo Ooo

22 *p* *legato* *mf*

S 1 Ooo Ooo Ooo Ooo When they

S 2 Ooo Ooo Ooo Ooo When they

M 1 was an old man in a tree, Who was hor - rib - ly bored by a bee. When they

M 2 *mp* *legato* *mp* Ooo Ooo was hor - rib - ly bored by a bee. When they

A 1 *mp* Doo - Doo Doo - Doo Doo - Doo Doo - Doo Doo - Doo Doo - Doo Ooo

A 2 *mp* Doo Doo Doo Doo Doo Doo Ooo

24 *sfz*

S 1 said, "Does it buzz?" he re-plied, "Yes, it does! It's a reg - u - lar brute of a Bee!" Ah *sfz*

S 2 said, "Does it buzz?" he re-plied, "Yes, it does! It's a reg - u - lar brute of a Bee!" Ah *sfz*

M 1 said, "Does it buzz?" he re - plied, "Yes, it does! It's a reg - u - lar brute of a Bee!" Ah *sfz*

M 2 said, "Does it buzz?" he re - plied, "Yes, it does! It's a reg - u - lar brute of a Bee!" Ah *sfz*

A 1 *mp* Ooo Ooo Doo Doo Doo Ah *sfz*

A 2 *mp* Doo Doo Doo Doo Doo Doo Doo Ah *sfz*

26 *mf* What a buzz, *cresc.* that bee did, that bee did buzz!

S 1

26 *mf* *cresc.*

S 2

26 *mp* Buzz it does. *cresc.* that bee did, that bee did buzz!

M 1

26 *mf* *cresc.*

M 2

26 *mf* said he, be-cuz that bee did, *cresc.* that bee did buzz!

A 1

26 *mf* Miff'd he was, *cresc.* that bee did,— that bee did buzz!

A 2

26 *mp* Does it buzz? that bee did,— that bee did buzz!

29 *mp* zzz zzz

S 1

29 *mf* zzz zzz

S 2

29

M 1

29

M 2

29 *mp* *mf* zzz zzz zzz zzz

A 1

29 *p* *mp* *mf* zzz zzz zzz zzz

A 2

Musical score for measures 32-34, featuring six staves (S1, S2, M1, M2, A1, A2) with dynamic markings *mf* and *f*, and zzz sound effects.

S1: *mf* (measures 32-34), *f* (measures 33-34). zzz sound effects.

S2: *f* (measures 33-34). zzz zzz sound effects.

M1: *f* (measures 33-34). zzz zzz zzz sound effects.

M2: *mf* (measures 32-34), *f* (measures 33-34). zzz zzz zzz sound effects.

A1: *f* (measures 33-34). zzz sound effects.

A2: *f* (measures 33-34). zzz sound effects.

Musical score for measures 35-36, featuring six staves (S1, S2, M1, M2, A1, A2) with lyrics and dynamic markings *mf* and *p*. Includes a tempo change to *Tempo I* and a *legato* marking.

S1: *mf* (measures 35-36), *p legato* (measure 36). Lyrics: "It's a reg - u - lar brute of a Beel!" Ooo

S2: *mf* (measures 35-36), *p* (measure 36). Lyrics: "It's a reg - u - lar brute of a Beel!" Ah

M1: *mf* (measures 35-36), *p* (measure 36). Lyrics: "It's a reg - u - lar brute of a Beel!" Ah

M2: *mf* (measures 35-36), *p* (measure 36). Lyrics: "It's a reg - u - lar brute of a Beel!" Ah

A1: *mf* (measures 35-36), *p* (measure 36). Lyrics: "It's a reg - u - lar brute of a Beel!" Ah

A2: *mf* (measures 35-36), *p* (measure 36). Lyrics: "It's a reg - u - lar brute of a Beel!" Ah

Tempo I

Musical score for vocal parts S1, S2, M1, M2, A1, and A2, measures 39-45. The score is in 12/8 time and B-flat major. Dynamics include *mp*, *mf*, *pp*, and *mf*. Lyrics include "Ooo", "Ah", and "There".

Musical score for vocal parts S1, S2, M1, M2, A1, and A2, measures 46-52. The score is in 12/8 time and B-flat major. Dynamics include *mp*, *p*, and *mp*. Lyrics include "was an old man who sup-pos'd That the street door was par-tial-ly clos'd But some" and "Doo".

48

S 1
ve - ry large rats, ate his coats and his hats, While that fu - tile old gen - tle - man doz'd. While that *mf*

S 2
mf
While that

M 1
mf
While that

M 2
mf
While that

A 1
mf
While that

A 2
mf
While that

Ooo

Ooo

Ooo

Ooo

50

S 1
fu - tile — old gen - tle - man doz'd. Ah *sfp*

S 2
fu - tile — old gen - tle - man doz'd. Ah *sfp*

M 1
fu - tile — old gen - tle - man doz'd. Ah *sfp*

M 2
fu - tile — old gen - tle - man doz'd. Ah *sfp*

A 1
fu - tile — old gen - tle - man doz'd. Ah *sfp* *pp*
la — la —

A 2
fu - tile — old gen - tle - man doz'd. Ah *sfp* *pp*
la — la — la — la —

54 *p* *mp*

S 1 la— la la— la la— la la— la— la la— la la— la

S 2 *p* *mp*
la la— la la— la la— la la—

M 1 *mp*
la-la la la-la la

M 2 *p* *mp*
la la-la la la-la la la-la la la-la

A 1 *p* *mp*
la— la— la— la— la— la—

A 2 *p* *mp*
la— la— la— la— la— la—

57 *mf* *mp* *p rit.*

S 1 la— la la— la (pitch pipe) La la la, La la la, La la la...—

S 2 *mf* *mp* *p rit.*
la - la— la la - La la la, La la la, La la la...—

M 1 *mf* *mp* *p rit.*
la-la la la-la la La la la, La la la, La la la...—

M 2 *mf* *mp* *p rit.*
la la-la la la-la La la la, La la la, La la la...—

A 1 *mf* *mp* *p rit.*
la— la— La la la, La la la, La la la...—

A 2 *mf* *mp* *p rit.*
la— la— La la la, La la la, La la la...—