

A Story

(Wolf Song)

Commissioned by the One Voice Mixed Chorus
through the Walker Art Center Choral Commissioning Project

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Narrator: Silverwolf was a good, little wolf.
He listened to his mom; he never
played far from her sight and he
ate everything on his plate.

The musical score is written for a mixed chorus and chimes. It consists of seven staves. The Mezzo (Silver-) and Tenor (wolf) parts are in treble clef, while the Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass parts are in bass clef. The Chimes part is in treble clef. The score is in common time (C) and features a variety of dynamics including *p*, *mp*, *f*, and *mf*. The lyrics are: "Ah - Ooo Ah - Ooo" for the Mezzo and Tenor parts, and "Mmmm" for the Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass parts. The Chimes part has the lyrics "Chimes:". The score includes a narrator's text: "Silverwolf was a good, little wolf. He listened to his mom; he never played far from her sight and he ate everything on his plate." The score is marked with a double bar line (//) at the end of the first system.

Mezzo (Silver-)

Tenor (wolf)

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Chimes

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And his dad played games with him. Silverwolf's favorite was "Catch the Rabbit." Sometimes he'd get to be the wolf and his dad was the bunny.

8 *f*

Silver- Ah - Ooo Ah - Ooo

wolf *f* Ah - Ooo Ah - Ooo

8 *mp* *p*

S Aow Aow Aow Aow Aow Aow Aow Aow

8 *mp* *p* *sneaky* *mp*

A Mmm Mmm Mmm Mmm Mmm Mmm Catch the rab - bit

8 *mp* *p*

T Aow Aow Aow Aow Aow Aow Aow Aow

8 *mp* *p* *sneaky* *mp*

B Aow Aow Aow Aow Aow Aow Catch the rab - bit

12 *sneaky* *mp* *accel.*

S Catch the rab - bit Aow Aow Catch the rab - bit Aow

12 *p* *mf*

A Mmm Mmm Catch the rab - bit Mmm Mmm Catch the rab - bit

12 *mf*

T Aow Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit

12 *p* *mp*

B Aow Aow Aow Aow Catch the rab - bit Aow Aow

mf

S
Aow Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit

A
Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit

T
Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit

B
mf
Catch the Rab - bit Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit

Somehow,
Silverwolf always won.

18 *A Tempo* *mp*

Silver- Ah - Ooo Ah - Ooo

wolf Ah - Ooo Ah - Ooo

18 *f* *A Tempo* *p* *mp*

S Catch the rab - bit Pounce! Aow Aow Catch the rab - bit

A *f* *mp* *p* *mp*
Catch the rab - bit Pounce! Catch the rab - bit Mmm Mmm Mmm

T *f* *p* *mp*
Catch the rab - bit Pounce! Aow Aow Catch the rab - bit

B *f* *p* *mp*
Catch the rab - bit Pounce! Aow Catch the rab - bit Aow Aow Aow

22

S Aow Aow Catch the rab - bit Aow Catch the rab - bit *mf*

A Catch the rab - bit Mmm Catch the rab - bit *mf* Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit

T Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit *mf* Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit

B Aow Catch the rab - bit Aow Aow Catch the rab - bit *mf*

He liked playing with the
other boy and girl wolves.

25 *accel.* *f* *A Tempo*

Silver- Ah - Ooo Pounce!

wolf Ah - Ooo Pounce!

25 *accel.* *f* *A Tempo*

S Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit Pounce!

A Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit *f* Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit Pounce!

T Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit *f* Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit Pounce!

B Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit *f* Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit Pounce!

29 *mp* Ah - Ooo Ah - Ooo

29 *mp* Ah - Ooo Ah - Ooo

S 29 *p* Aow Aow *mp* Catch the rab - bit *p* Aow Aow

A 29 *mp* Catch the rab - bit *p* Mmm Mmm Mmm Catch the rab - bit

T 29 *p* Aow Aow Aow Aow *mp* Aow Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit

B 29 *mp* Catch the rab - bit *p* Aow Aow Aow Aow Aow Aow

But they always made
him play the rabbit.

32 *mf* Ah - Ooo Ah - Ooo Ah - *accel.*

32 *mf* Ah - Ooo Ah - Ooo Ah -

S 32 *mf* Catch the rab - bit *accel.* Catch the rab - bit

A 32 *mf* Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit

T 32 *mf* Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit

B 32 *mf* Catch the rab - bit Aow Aow Catch the rab - bit Catch the rab - bit

Now he couldn't even play the rabbit and lose.

us anymore. Close the door.

Silver-
wolf

S
A
T
B

41
8

mf *p*

Pounce! Catch the rab-bit Catch the rab-bit

mf *p*

Pounce! Catch the rab-bit Catch the rab-bit

mf *p*

Pounce! Catch the rab-bit Catch the rab-bit

mf *p*

Pounce! Catch the rab-bit Catch the rab-bit

He went home, his tail hanging low, and he asked
his mom and dad what they meant.

SW: "What is it, to be different?"

Mom: "I don't know"

N: his mom said.

Mom: "But we love you anyway."

SW: "Am I really different?"

N: he asked his dad

Dad: Yes...I can't exactly say how, but you're
not quite like other wolves."

(pause)

That night Silverwolf crept away
and went on top of the hill.

"The boy and girl wolves
don't want to play with
me any more," he thought.

"they don't like me."

He started to cry. "I feel
so sad," he cried, "No one
wants to be my friend and
I don't know why."

45 *Slower mp cresc. poco a poco*

Silver- Ah - Ooo Ah - Ooo Ah - Ooo Ah - Ooo Ah - Ooo

wolf 8 Ah - Ooo Ah - Ooo Ah - Ooo Ah - Ooo Ah - Ooo Ah -

45 *sfz*

S Pounce!

45 *sfz*

A Pounce!

45 *sfz*

T Pounce!

45 *sfz*

B Pounce!

Pounce!

Silverwolf cried and cried, his howl
filling the whole valley with his lonely song.

53 *f*

Silver- Ah— Oo Ah— Oo Ah— Oo Ah— Ooo Ah—

wolf Ooo Ah— Ooo Ah— Ooo Ah— Ooo Ah— Ooo Ah— Ooo Ah—

53 *mp* *mf*

S Ah— Ooo Ah— Ooo Ah— Ooo Ah— Ooo

A Ah— Ooo Ah— Ooo Ah— Ooo Ah— Ooo Ah— Ooo

T *mp* *mf* Ooo Ah— Ooo Ah— Ooo Ah— Ooo Ah— Ooo Ah— Ooo Ah—

B *mf* Aow Aow

59

Silver- Ooo Ah - Oooo— Ah Oooo—

wolf Ooo Ah - Oooo— Ah Ooo—

59 Ah— Ooo Ah— Ooo Ah— Ooo Ah— Ooo Ah— Ooo

A Ah— Ooo Ah— Ooo Ah— Ooo Ah— Ooo Ah— Ooo

T Ooo Ah— Ooo Ah— Ooo Ah— Ooo Ah— Ooo Ah— Ooo Ah—

B Aow Aow Aow Aow Aow Aow

65

Silver-

wolf

mp

decrecendo

p

Ah— Oo

Ah— Oo

Ah— Oo

Aow Ah—

mp

decrecendo

p

Ah— Ooo

Ah— Ooo

Ah— Ooo

Ah—Ooo Ah

65

S

Ah— Ooo

65

A

Ah— Ooo

Ah— Ooo

Ah— Ooo

Ah— Ooo

ppp

Ah— Ooo

65

T

Ooo

Ah— Ooo

Ah— Ooo

Ah— Ooo

65

B

Silver
 72
 Ooo Ah Ooo

wolf
 72
 5 Ooo Ah Ooo

S
 72
pp Mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm

A
 72
pp Mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm

T
 72
pp smooth and pulsing (stagger breathing) Mm mm mm mm mm mm mm Mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm

B
 72
pp Mm mm mm mm mm mm mm Mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm mm

Look up in the sky and see.

<chimes begin p. crescendo to *f* over 4 counts,
continue to next cue>

All around me are stars. Big stars, little stars.
And they're always singing to each other.

<chimes begin a gradual decrescendo>

Oh sure, I have my mom and dad I can talk to, the
earth and the sun.

<chimes end>

But I don't have any friends, no one
who will sing songs to me.

(repeat until text is completed)

The musical score is for four voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. The key signature is D major (two sharps). The time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into measures, with the first measure starting at measure 77. The piano part consists of a repeating chime pattern of eighth notes in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The dynamics are marked as *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *mp* (mezzo-piano). The score includes cues for the chimes to begin and end.

Soprano (S): *mf* (mezzo-forte) *mp* (mezzo-piano) *mp* (mezzo-piano)

Alto (A): *mf* (mezzo-forte) *mp* (mezzo-piano) *mp* (mezzo-piano)

Tenor (T): *mf* (mezzo-forte) *mp* (mezzo-piano) *mp* (mezzo-piano)

Bass (B): *mf* (mezzo-forte) *mp* (mezzo-piano) *mp* (mezzo-piano)

*CHIMES: see text above for cues

Silverwolf dried his
wet cheeks with his paws.

Then let me sing a song to
you, beautiful moon.

I'll be your friend,
I'll sing for you.

And so he sang a song
to the moon,

83 *expressively poignant* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf*

Silver- Ah Ooo Ah Ooo Ah Ooo Ah Ooo

wolf 83 *expressively poignant* *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf*

Ah Ooo Ah Ooo Ah Ooo Ah Ooo

83 *p* continue pulsing 3

S Mmmmm... Mm mm mmmm

83 *p*

A Mmmmm Mmmmm

83 *p*

T Mmmmm

83 *p*

B Mmmmm

a great big song,

...the biggest song he ever sang before. It was a song that came from the deepest place in his heart. The whole valley was filled with music like it had never heard before, music that made all who heard it cry because it was so beautiful.

The musical score is written for six voices: Silver, wolf, Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B). The tempo is marked 90. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The score is divided into four measures.

- Silver:** Melodic line with lyrics "Ah", "Ooo", "Ah", "Ooo", "Ah", "Ooo", "Ah". Dynamics: *mp*, *p*, *mp*, *mf*.
- wolf:** Melodic line with lyrics "Ah", "Ooo", "Ah", "Ooo", "Ah", "Ooo", "Ah". Dynamics: *mp*, *p*, *mp*, *mf*.
- S:** Sustained notes with lyrics "Mmm", "Mmm".
- A:** Sustained notes with lyrics "Mmmmm".
- T:** Sustained notes with lyrics "Mmm".
- B:** Sustained notes.

After that night, Silverwolf
sang many such songs
to his new friend.

94

f *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf*

Silver-
wolf

Ooo— Ah— Ooo— Ah-Oo— Aow Ah-Oo Aow Ah-Oo Ah-Ooo Ah-Oo— Aow

Ooo— Ah— Ooo Ahh— Ooo— Ah-Oo Ah-Oo Ah-Oo Ah-Oo Ah-Oo— Ah— Oo Ah-Oo

94

S

94

A

94

T

8

Mmm—

94

B

One night, though, Moon
didn't come by. Silverwolf looked
into the sky and saw only a dark
hole where his friend should be.

The stars continued their
songs, but it was the Moon's
voice he wanted to hear.

100

p *f* *p*

Silver-
wolf

Ah-Oo Aow Ah-Oo Ah Ooo— Ah Ooo Ah-

Ah-Oo Ah-Oo Ah-Oo Ah-Oo Ah— Oo— Ah Oo Ah

100

Chimes

100

p

"Oh Moon, my friend,"
he cried.

"Where did you go?"

"Why aren't you speaking to me?
Are we no longer friends?"

"I miss you so much."

107

f *mf* *mp* *f* *mp* *p*

Silver-
wolf

107

f *mf* *mp* *mf* *p*

S

107

mf *mf* *p*

A

107

mp *mf* *p*

T

107

mp *mf* *p*

B

107

mf *p*

Chimes

S

120 3 3 3 3 3 3 continue pulsing

mm mm mm mm mm mm Mmmmm

A

120 3 3 3 3 3 3 continue pulsing

mm mm mm mm mm mm Mmm

T

120 3 3 3 3 3 3 continue pulsing

mm mm mm mm mm mm Mmm

B

120 3 3 3 3 3 3 continue pulsing

mm mm mm mm mm mm Mmmmm

Another day, the Moon was full and
his face was so bright it looked like
the sun was shining on the valley.

"I'm so happy tonight," Silverwolf sang,

17

124

Silver-

wolf

8

Ah Ooo Aow

Ah Oo Ah Oo

f *mp*

Ooo

Oooo

f *mp*

Oooo

f *mp*

Ooooo

f *mp*

Ooo

Ooo

"I can see your face in its full glory. I hope we will
always be the best of friends. I love you, Moon."

129

Silver-

wolf

8

Ah - Oo Aow Ah - Oo Ah - Oo Ah Ooo Ah Ooo Aow Ah - Oo Aow Ah - Oo Ah -

Ah Oo Ah - Oo Ah - Oo Ah - Oo Ah Oo Ah Oo Ah - Oo Ah - Oo Ah - Oo Ah - Oo

129

S

A

T

B

"You're song makes me so happy," cried Moon. "No one sings
me songs like yours. Thanks to you, I no longer know what it
means to be lonely. I love you Silverwolf.
We shall always be friends."

137

Silver-
wolf

Oo Ah - Oo

Ah - Oo

133

S

mf

A

mf

T

mf

B

mf

And for the rest of Silverwolf's life, he never
again knew what it was to be alone.

138 *mf* *p mf* *p mf*

Silver- *mf* *p mf* *p mf*

wolf *mf* *p mf* *p mf*

8 Ah— Ooo— Ah— Ooo— Ah— Ooo—

138 *p* *< f >* *p* *< f >* *p* *< f >* *pp*

S *p* *< f >* *p* *< f >* *p* *< f >* *pp*

A *p* *< f >* *p* *< f >* *p* *< f >* *pp*

T *p* *< f >* *p* *< f >* *p* *< f >* *pp*

B *p* *< f >* *p* *< f >* *p* *< f >* *pp*

Mmm— Mmm— Mmm— Mmm—

138

Chimes