

Violin

Gwyneth Walker

# The Race

*a fable for Narrator, Violin, Violoncello and Piano*

based on the story "*The Hare and the Tortoise*"

# The Race

*A Fable for Narrator, Violin, Violoncello and Piano*

Violin (*The Rabbit*)

Gwyneth Walker

(Narrative precedes the musical commentary)

**Narrator:** This is a story about a race. A road race between two animals.

**Fanfare**  
Quickly ♩ = 144, with energy

Musical notation for the Fanfare, measures 1-4. Measure 1 starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Measure 4 includes a ritardando (*rit.*) marking.

**N:** Once upon a time, there was a speedy animal.

**A** (Solo)  
7 *p*

Musical notation for section A, measure 7, starting with a piano (*p*) dynamic.

**N:** He was a sprinter.

**A1** Quickly ♩ = 160  
(Solo) ("hopping sounds")  
8

Musical notation for section A1, measure 8, featuring a solo with "hopping sounds".

**N:** He ran so quickly that the wind whistled as he went by!

**B** (to portray the wind whistling as the Rabbit runs by)  
9 *gliss. ad lib.*

Musical notation for section B, measure 9, featuring a glissando (*gliss. ad lib.*) marking.

**N:** He was a Rabbit. A Speedy Rabbit.

**C** Quickly ♩ = 160, as if hopping  
(much "hopping")  
10 *p* *mf*

Musical notation for section C, measures 10-14, starting with a piano (*p*) dynamic and ending with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic.

N: In fact, he was always in such a rush, that...  
...casting its circle of light out to the ships at sea.

14 **D** Moderate tempo *rit.*

[Piano]

N: He never heard the birds singing  
in the trees overhead.

18 **D1** Moderate tempo

[Piano]

N: He did not stop to watch  
the children playing baseball in the park.

19 **D2** Moderate tempo

[Piano]

N: And, he never waved “hello”  
to his neighbors sitting on their porch.

23 **D3** Moderate tempo

[Piano]

N: He was very speedy, and always rushed to where he was going.

**E** Quickly ♩ = 160  
 (“rabbit” motive)

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

N: And then, there was the Tortoise.

35 **F** Slowly

[Vlc.]

N: [A Tortoise is a VERY LARGE turtle!]

36 **F1** Very slowly

[Vlc.]

N: He was not speedy. In fact, he never ran at all...  
...casting its circle of light out to the ships at sea.

38 **G** Moderate tempo *rit.*

[Piano]

N: He always slowed down to listen to  
the birds singing in the trees overhead.

42 **D1** Moderate tempo

[Piano]

N: And, he always stopped to watch  
the children playing baseball in the park.

43 **D2** Moderate tempo

[Piano]

N: Of course, he always waived “hello”  
to his neighbors, sitting on their porch.

47 **D3** Moderate tempo

[Piano]

N: He was a slow Tortoise, but he always got to where he was going...eventually!

49 **H** At a slow, lumbering tempo

(Vlc.) *p* *f* *Play* *Grandly, rit.* *Less slowly rit.* *p*

55

N: One day, the Rabbit

61 **I** (Solo)

*p*

N: (who was a boastful creature) said to the other animals...  
...They knew that they could not catch him. But, the Tortoise

62 **II** Slowly

[Vlc.]

N: (brave Tortoise!) stepped forward and said: “Speedy Rabbit, I am not afraid  
of you. I will race you. I accept your challenge.”

63 **J** At a slow, lumbering tempo *rit.*

(Vlc.) *p* *f* *Play* *rit.* *p*

N: The Rabbit laughed and replied: “YOU?!? You will race me?!?...  
... I can beat you on only one foot if I wanted!”

**K** Quickly

(Solo) (much “hopping”)

67

*p* repeat several times

N: The Tortoise replied slowly: “That may be true.  
But you should save your boasting until after the race.”

**L** Quickly ♩ = 144, with energy  
preparing for the race

68 *f*

72 (*“rabbit”* motive) *p*

76 *f* *rit.* Hold (to beginning of next measure)

N: So, the Rabbit and the Tortoise changed into their running clothes. They put on their running shoes, and their running caps.

**M**

80 [Violin and Cello may put on caps]

N: And, they lined up at the Starting Line...  
...ready.....set.....GO!”

[Narrator claps hands loudly, to start the race.]

**M1**

81 [Narrator and Players tap feet quickly, as if running... loudly at first, then *diminuendo* to a quiet background behind the reading]

N: The Rabbit got off to a quick start... (*lengthy reading*)...  
...That will show the Tortoise how much faster I am than him!”

**M2**

82 [Footsteps stop]

N: So, the Rabbit found a nice soft little spot of grass, and lay down for a nap...

**N** Moderate tempo  
(w/ piano)

83 *mf* gently *rit.* *p* cont. *ad lib.* as if dozing off

N: Meanwhile, the Tortoise was plodding...  
...casting its circle of light to the ships at sea.

87 **O** Leisurely tempo *rit.*

[Piano]

N: Of course, he stopped to listen to  
the birds singing in the trees overhead.

91 **O1** Leisurely tempo

[Piano]

N: Of course, he stopped to watch...  
...and he knew a good game when he saw one!]

92 **O2** Leisurely tempo

[Piano]

N: And, of course, he waved “hello” to  
his neighbors as they sat on their porch.

96 **O3** Leisurely tempo

[Piano]

N: By now, he was nearly...  
...Speedy Rabbit awoke from his nap.

**P** *con sord.*  
*(Solo) startled*

98

*f*

N: He looked around, but did not see the Tortoise...  
*(lengthy)*...casting its circle of light out to the ships at sea.

**Q** Prestissimo

99

[Piano]

N: Of course, he did not stop to listen to  
the birds singing in the trees overhead.

103 **Q1** Prestissimo

[Piano]

N: Of course, he did not stop to watch ...  
...and knew a good game when he saw one!).

104 **Q2** Prestissimo

[Piano]

N: He raced, and he raced. When he came to the neighbors...  
...*(lengthy reading)*...Hooray Tortoise! (they shouted to each other)  
Hooray Tortoise! Let’s have a party to celebrate!”

108 **R** With energy **In celebration** ♩ = 160

[Vlc. & Piano]

N: The Rabbit sank down on his paws in shock... *(lengthy)* ...along the way, all of these years! Woe is me!”

**S** Slowly, mournfully  
*(con sord.) (w/ Piano)*  
*trembling with sorrow*

113

*p* *rit.* *via sord.*

N: The neighbors comforted the Rabbit... (lengthy)...  
...and they welcomed the Not-so-Speedy Rabbit as their new friend.

**T** Slowly, grandly

117 *senza sord.*

*f* *sfz*

**U** Quickly, very joyfully ♩ = 160

121

*f* *p*

126

*f*

132

*f* *p* "hopping" motive (Vlc.)

138

*p* hopping (Vlc.)

**X** Especially celebratory

143 *Play*

*f* *gliss.*

Narrator and players raise fists in the air as if celebrating winning a race.

N: (exclaims) **THE** **END!**  
*rit. to end* raise fists

147

*f* *gliss.*

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# The Race

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based on the story *“The Hare and the Tortoise”*

# The Race

*A Fable for Narrator, Violin, Violoncello and Piano*

Violoncello (*The Tortoise*)

Gwyneth Walker

(Narrative precedes the musical commentary)

**Narrator:** This is a story about a race. A road race between two animals.

**Fanfare**  
Quickly ♩ = 144, with energy



**N:** Once upon a time, there was a speedy animal.

7 **A**



**N:** He was a sprinter.

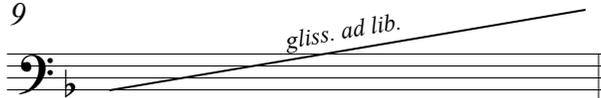
8 **A1** Quickly ♩ = 160



**N:** He ran so quickly that the wind whistled as he went by!

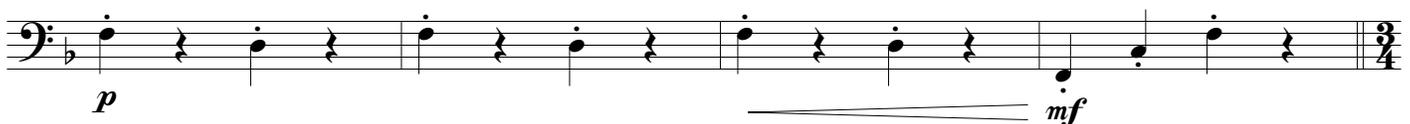
**B** (*to portray the wind whistling as the Rabbit runs by*)

9



**N:** He was a Rabbit. A Speedy Rabbit.

10 **C** Quickly ♩ = 160



N: In fact, he was always in such a rush, that he...  
...casting its circle of light out to the ships at sea.

14 **D** Moderate tempo *rit.*

[Piano]

N: He never heard the birds  
singing in the trees overhead.

18 **D1** Moderate tempo

[Piano]

N: He did not stop to watch  
the children playing baseball in the park.

19 **D2** Moderate tempo

[Piano]

N: And, he never waved “hello” to  
his neighbors sitting on their porch.

23 **D3** Moderate tempo

[Piano]

N: He was very speedy, and always rushed to where he was going.

25 **E** Quickly ♩ = 160

N: And then, there was the Tortoise.

**F** Slowly

35 (Solo) heavily

N: [A Tortoise is a VERY LARGE turtle!]

**F1** Very slowly

36 (Solo) very heavily

N: He was not speedy. In fact, he never ran at all...  
...casting its circle of light out to the ships at sea.

38 **G** Moderate tempo *rit.*

[Piano]

N: He always slowed down to listen  
to the birds singing in the trees overhead.

42 **D1** Moderate tempo

[Piano]

N: And, he always stopped to watch  
the children playing baseball in the park.

43 **D2** Moderate tempo



N: Of course, he always waived “hello”  
to his neighbors, sitting on their porch.

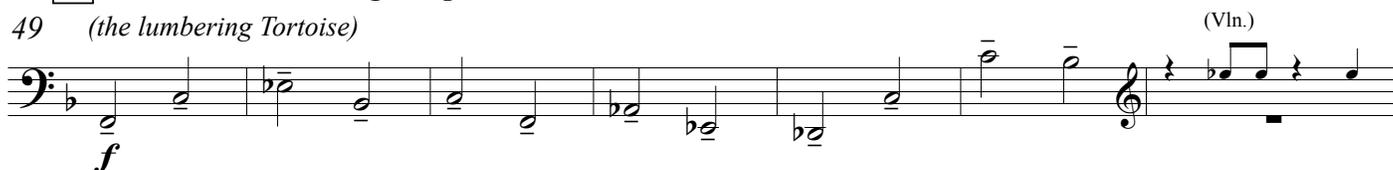
47 **D3** Moderate tempo



N: He was a slow Tortoise, but he always got to where he was going...eventually!

**H** At a slow, lumbering tempo

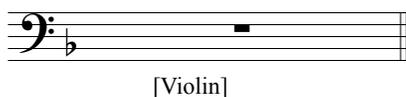
49 (the lumbering Tortoise)



N: (who was a boastful creature) said to the other animals...  
...They knew that they could not catch him. But, the Tortoise

N: One day, the Rabbit

61 **I**



**II** Slowly

62 (Solo) heavily



N: (brave Tortoise!) stepped forward and said: “Speedy Rabbit, I am not afraid  
of you. I will race you. I accept your challenge.”

**J** At a slow, lumbering tempo

63 (the lumbering Tortoise)



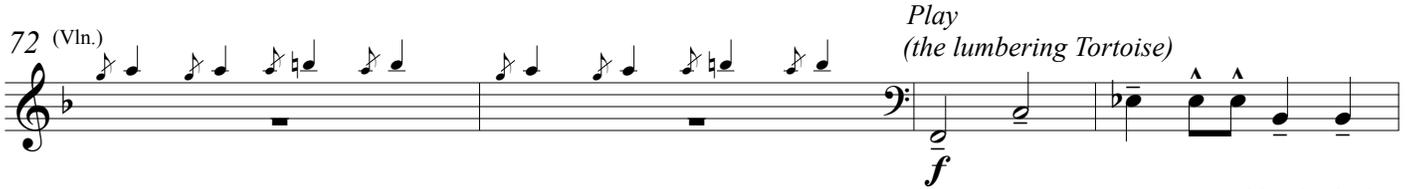
N: The Rabbit laughed and replied: “YOU?!? You will race me?!?...  
...I can beat you on only one foot if I wanted!”

67 **K** Quickly



N: The Tortoise replied slowly: “That may be true.  
But you should save your boasting until after the race.”

**L** Quickly ♩ = 144, with energy  
68 preparing for the race



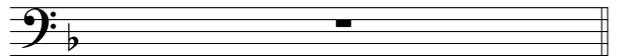
N: So, the Rabbit and the Tortoise changed  
into their running clothes. They put on their  
running shoes, and their running caps.

**M**  
80 [Violin and Cello may put on caps]



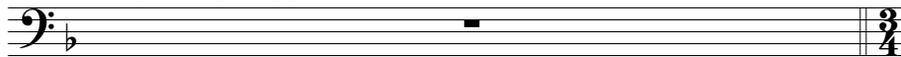
N: And, they lined up at the Starting Line...  
... ready.....set.....GO!”  
[Narrator claps hands loudly, to start the race.]

**M1** [Narrator and Players tap feet quickly, as if  
81 running... loudly at first, then *diminuendo*  
to a quiet background behind the reading]



N: The Rabbit got off to a quick start... (lengthy reading)...  
...That will show the Tortoise how much faster I am than him!”

82 **M2** [Footsteps stop]



N: So, the Rabbit found a nice soft little spot of grass, and lay down for a nap...

83 **N** Moderate tempo *rit.*



[Violin & Piano]

N: Meanwhile, the Tortoise was plodding...  
...casting its circle of light to the ships at sea.

87 **O** **Leisurely tempo** *rit.*

[Piano]

N: Of course, he stopped to listen to  
the birds singing in the trees overhead.

91 **O1** **Leisurely tempo**

[Piano]

N: Of course, he stopped to watch...  
...and he knew a good game when he saw one!]

92 **O2** **Leisurely tempo**

[Piano]

N: And, of course, he waved “hello” to  
his neighbors as they sat on their porch.

96 **O3** **Leisurely tempo**

[Piano]

N: By now, he was nearly...  
...Speedy Rabbit awoke from his nap.

98 **P**

[Violin]

N: He looked around, but did not see the Tortoise...  
...(lengthy)...casting its circle of light out to the ships at sea.

99 **Q** **Prestissimo** *no rit.*

[Violin]

N: Of course, he did not stop to listen to  
the birds singing in the trees overhead.

103 **Q1** **Prestissimo**

[Violin]

N: Of course, he did not stop to watch...  
...and knew a good game when he saw one!).

104 **Q2** **Prestissimo**

[Violin]

N: He raced, and he raced. When he came to the neighbors...  
...(lengthy)...Hooray Tortoise! (they shouted to each other)  
Hooray Tortoise! Let’s have a party to celebrate!”

**R** **With energy**

108 (w/ piano) *sfp* *(p)* *f* **In celebration** ♩ = 160

N: The Rabbit sank down on his paws in shock... (lengthy)  
...along the way, all of these years! Woe is me!”

113 **S** **Slowly, mournfully** *rit.*

[Violin & Piano]

N: The neighbors comforted the Rabbit...(lengthy)  
...and they welcomed the Not-so-Speedy Rabbit as their new friend.

117 **T** Slowly, grandly

121 **U** Quickly, very joyfully ♩ = 160

126 **V**

131 (Vln.) (Piano) Play

**W** (Piano) Play Tortoise: heavily

141 heavily

145 **X** Especially celebratory (Vln.) (Piano)

Narrator and players raise fists in the air as if celebrating winning a race.

149 Play *rit. to end* N: (exclaims) THE END! raise fists