

Gwyneth Walker

The Race

a fable for Narrator, Violin, Violoncello and Piano
(or Piccolo, Bass Clarinet and Piano)

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

The Race

*A Fable for Narrator, Violin, Violoncello and Piano
(or Piccolo, Bass Clarinet and Piano)*

Piccolo (*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*



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

N: He was a sprinter.

A

(Solo)



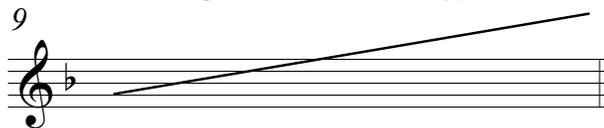
A1 **Quickly** ♩ = 160

(Solo) ("hopping sounds")



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

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



N: He was a Rabbit. A Speedy Rabbit.

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



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

[B. Cl.]

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

36 **F1** Very slowly

[B. Cl.]

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

(B. Cl.) *p* *f*

55

p

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 **I1** Slowly

[Piano]

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

(B. Cl.) *p* *f*

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 [Piccolo and Clarinet 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 running... loudly at first, then *diminuendo* to a quiet background behind the reading]

81

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

[B. Cl. & 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
(w/ Piano)
trembling with sorrow

113

p *rit.*

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.*

Musical notation for measure 117 in G major, 2/4 time. The melody starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic and includes accents (>) over several notes. It concludes with a *sfp* (sforzando piano) dynamic and a trill (*tr*) on the final note.

U Quickly, very joyfully ♩ = 160

121

Musical notation for measure 121, featuring a rapid eighth-note pattern starting with a forte (*f*) dynamic and ending with a piano (*p*) dynamic.

V

126

Musical notation for measure 126, continuing the eighth-note pattern with a forte (*f*) dynamic.

W

132

Musical notation for measure 132, featuring a 'hopping' motive in the bass clef (B. Cl.) with a piano (*p*) dynamic.

hopping

Play

(B. Cl.)

138

Musical notation for measure 138, showing the 'hopping' motive in the bass clef with a piano (*p*) dynamic.

X Especially celebratory

143 *Play*

Musical notation for measure 143, featuring a celebratory eighth-note pattern with a forte (*f*) dynamic and a trill (*tr*) on the final note.

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

N: (exclaims) **THE**
rit. to end

END!
raise fists

147

Musical notation for measure 147, concluding the piece with a forte (*f*) dynamic and a trill (*tr*) on the final note.

B♭ Bass Clarinet

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(or Piccolo, Bass Clarinet and Piano)*

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

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*A Fable for Narrator, Violin, Violoncello and Piano
(or Piccolo, Bass Clarinet and Piano)*

B \flat Bass Clarinet (*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**

[Piccolo]

N: He was a sprinter.

8 **A1** **Quickly** ♩ = 160

[Piccolo]

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

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

N: He was a Rabbit. A Speedy Rabbit.

10 **C** **Quickly** ♩ = 160

p *mf*

*The *ossia* notes are provided for those Bass Clarinets that lack the low extension.

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

[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!

H At a slow, lumbering tempo
(the lumbering Tortoise)

f

Grandly, rit.
Play

Less slowly *rit.*

p

(Vln.)

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**

[Piccolo]

II Slowly
(Solo) heavily

f

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
(the lumbering Tortoise)

f

rit.

p

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

[Piccolo] *repeat several times*

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

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

72 (Vln.) *8va* Play (the lumbering Tortoise)
f

76 *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 [Piccolo and Clarinet 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.*

[Piccolo & 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**

[Piccolo]

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.*

[Piccolo]

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

103 **Q1** **Prestissimo**

[Piccolo]

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

104 **Q2** **Prestissimo**

[Piccolo]

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) *tr* **In celebration** ♩ = 160

[Piano]

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.*

[Piccolo & 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

(Vln.) *8va* (Piano) *Play*

W

135 (Piano)

Play (f)
Tortoise: *heavily*

141 *heavily*

145 **X** Especially celebratory

(Vln.) *8va* (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*