

The Butterfly Obtains

for voice and piano

Text by Emily Dickinson

Music by Charles Nelson (2025)

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Approx' length: 2' 45"

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Largo con poco rubato

mp

The but - ter - fly ob - tains

mp

p

But lit - tle sym - pa - thy ——— Though fa - vor - ab - ly men - tioned

In Ent - om - ol - ogy

R.H.

poco dim.

mf

L.H.

Red.

8

Musical score for measures 8-9. The system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part features a complex rhythmic pattern with triplets and sixteenth notes. The vocal line is mostly rests.

10

Musical score for measures 10-11. The vocal line has the lyrics "Be - - - cause he trav - els free - ly". The piano accompaniment continues with complex rhythms. A dynamic marking of *mp* (mezzo-piano) is present.

12

Musical score for measures 12-13. The vocal line has the lyrics "And wears a prop - er coat The cir - cum - spect are cer - tain____". The piano accompaniment features a melodic line in the right hand and a rhythmic pattern in the left hand. A dynamic marking of *poco, poco a poco* is present.

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14

dim.

That he is dis - so - lute

poco, poco a poco

mf

R.H.

L.H.

Red.

17

f

Red.

20

mp

Had he the home - ly

p

Red.

22 *f*

scut - cheon Of mod - est in - dus - try

R.H. L.H. *tr* *ff* *mf*

24 *mp*

27 *mp* *mf*

"Twere fit - ter cer - ti - fy - ing "Twere fit - ter cer - ti - fy - ing

poco, poco a poco *poco, poco a poco*

3 3 3 3

The image shows a musical score for a piece titled "The Butterfly Obtains". It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The first system (measures 22-24) starts in 5/4 time and changes to 4/4 at measure 23. The vocal line has lyrics "scut - cheon Of mod - est in - dus - try". The piano accompaniment features a right-hand part with trills and a left-hand part with a crescendo to fortissimo (ff) and then a mezzo-forte (mf) section. The second system (measures 24-26) continues the piano accompaniment with a mezzo-piano (mp) dynamic. The third system (measures 27-29) has the vocal line with lyrics "Twere fit - ter cer - ti - fy - ing" repeated. The piano accompaniment includes a mezzo-piano (mp) section, a mezzo-forte (mf) section, and a section marked "poco, poco a poco" with triplets in the bass line. A large red diagonal watermark reading "All rights reserved by the composer - Do not copy!" is overlaid across the entire page.

The Butterfly Obtains

30 *f* *poco dim.* *mf*

'Twere fit - ter cer - ti - fy - ing For im - mor - ta - li -

33 *mp*

- ty For im - mor - ta - li - ty

36 *p* *dim.*

For im - mor - ta - li - ty

