

Tartan by Elissa Milne

What does the title mean?

Tartan is a type of checked fabric from Scotland that indicates family clan. This piece has many Scottish elements, such as a melody with grace note (acciaccatura) ornaments plus drone that is reminiscent of Scottish bagpipes, and folk elements such as changing time signatures.

What key is this in?

C major. There are no key changes.

Notation:

Reeling - like a Scottish dance

Mf - mezzo forte - moderately loud

Diminuendo - gradually getting softer

Staccato - short and detached

Slur - play legato

Mp - mezzo piano - moderately soft

Subito - suddenly

F - forte - loud

Crescendo - gradually getting louder

P - piano - soft

Acciaccatura - short quick note before the main note (type of ornament)

ff - fortissimo - very loud

Pedal - use the damper pedal

Tie - hold the notes for their combined value

8vb - play one octave lower than written

*Hemiola - a rhythmical device where in 6/8 time, the accent is changed to be in 3.