

A Train Journey by Bela Bartok
No. 10 from *For Children* Book 1, Sz. 42

What does the title mean?

'Train journey' is a pictorial title. You can hear the train in the music through the persistent quavers, even rhythms and time signature, and repeated melodic material.

What key is this in?

A Dorian (A minor with F#). It changes key in bar 21 to C Lydian or E minor bar 27. Then in bar 41, returns to A Dorian.


Notation:


Allegro molto - much fast and lively

Metronome marking ♩ = 160 - 168

2/4 - time signature - simple duple - 2 crotchet beats per bar $\frac{2}{4}$

f - forte - loud *f*


Sempre legato - always smoothly connected 


> - accent - marcato - play the note loudly 

Damper pedal 


Impetuoso - impetuous

Slur - play legato 

Tenuto - hold the note for its full value - stress the note 

Staccato - short and detached 


ff - fortissimo - very loud *ff*

Martellato - hammered accent - loud accent 

Poco rit. - poco ritenuto - a little immediately slower

a tempo - return to original speed

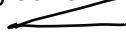
Poco dim - poco diminuendo - a little gradually getting softer

Caesura - comma - take a breath 

mf - mezzo forte - moderately loud *mf*

Rit. - ritardando - gradually getting slower

Dim. - diminuendo - gradually getting softer

Crescendo - gradually getting louder 

Sffz - sforzando - strong sudden accent

Tie - hold notes for their combined value 