

Land of the Silver Birch

Canadian Folk Song
Arranged by Donald Coakley

The origin of this folk song is not known. It was very popular in the northern lake country of Ontario, Canada. It was a well known song in the summer camps of the region, because of its evocation of the native peoples of North America.

Work to bring out the haunting, mysterious quality of the melody. The opening should be played in a strong, secure manner. Throughout, the snare drum should not dominate, but lend support to the other parts. Also, it is important that the snare drum maintain a steady tempo, throughout this setting. All stylistic indications should be carefully observed. The ending should be very subdued.

PREVIEW ONLY

Donald Coakley studied at the Crane School of Music at the State University of New York in Potsdam, New York, the School of Music at Temple University and the Philadelphia Conservatory of Music. While studying at the Conservatory, he was a composition student of Vincent Persichetti and studied trombone with Henry Charles Smith, principal trombone of the Philadelphia Orchestra. Following graduate school, he taught at Cardinal Dougherty High School in Philadelphia, and also served as conductor of the Camden Choral Arts Society in Camden, New Jersey. After a successful tenure at Cardinal Dougherty, Coakley joined the faculty of the School of Music at Temple University.

In the early 1970s, Coakley was invited to join the Music Department of the Scarborough School System, becoming Assistant Coordinator of Music shortly thereafter. As such, he was responsible for the elementary instrumental music program in the school system. He also headed the instrumental wing at the Scarborough Music Camps. In 1970 he founded the Scarborough Schools Symphony Orchestra and subsequently oversaw the inception of four other All-City instrumental ensembles.

Donald Coakley has written successfully for school, university and professional groups. He is a member of the Canadian League of Composers, as well as an Associate Composer with the Canadian Music Centre. In 1977, Coakley received the Distinguished Service to Education Award from the State University of New York; and in 1994 he received the Anson Taylor Award for excellence in teaching from the Scarborough Board of Education.

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DIFFICULTY RATING: Easy

CATALOG NUMBER: WWE1399

DURATION: 2:25

Interchangeable Woodwind Ensemble

LAND OF THE SILVER BIRCH

Canadian Folk Song
Arranged by Donald Cookley
Adapted by David Marlatt

Steady and Haunting $\text{♩} = 84$

alone

PART 1
Flute, Oboe,
Clarinet
mp

PART 2
Flute, Oboe,
Clarinet

PART 3
Clarinet, Alto
Saxophone

PART 4
Clarinet, Tenor
Saxophone, F Horn

PART 5
Bass Clarinet, Bassoon,
Baritone Saxophone

Mid High Tom-tom
Suspended Cymbal

1 *f*

2 *mp*

3 *mf*

4 *mf*

5 *mf*

Perc *mf*

14 not lead

16 lead

17 *f*

18 not lead

19 *mp*

20 *mf*

Perc *f*

21 22 23 24 25 26 not lead

Musical score for measures 21-26. The score is written for five staves (1-5) and a Percussion part. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The time signature is 4/4. The dynamics are marked as *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *mp* (mezzo-piano). The Percussion part features a steady eighth-note pattern. A large watermark "PREVIEW ONLY" is overlaid across the middle of the page.

27 28 29 30 31 32

Musical score for measures 27-32. The score is written for five staves (1-5) and a Percussion part. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The time signature is 4/4. The dynamics are marked as *f* (forte) and *mf* (mezzo-forte). The Percussion part has a sparse pattern with rests. A large watermark "PREVIEW ONLY" is overlaid across the middle of the page.

33 34 35 36 37 38

Musical score for measures 33-38. The score is written for five staves (1-5) and a Percussion part. The key signature is three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The time signature is 4/4. The dynamics are marked as *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *f* (forte). The Percussion part features a steady eighth-note pattern. A large watermark "PREVIEW ONLY" is overlaid across the middle of the page.

1 *lead*
f 40 41 42

2 *f*

3 *f*

4

5

Perc *Susp. Cym.*
f

1 *mp* 43 44 45 46 47 48 *rit.*

2 *mp*

3

4 *mp* *lead* *mp*

5 *mp*

Perc *T.T.*
mp *Susp. Cym.*
mp