

Kjos String Orchestra
Grade 3 ½
Full Conductor Score
SO306F
\$7.00

Jeffrey S. Bishop

Persephone's Revenge





The Composer

Jeffrey S. Bishop earned his B.S. in Music Education from Northwest Missouri State University and his M.M. in Conducting at the Wichita State University School of Music, where he studied composition with Walter A. Mays. He is currently the Director of Orchestras and Division Coordinator of Fine Arts at Shawnee Mission Northwest High School in Shawnee Mission, Kansas. Under his direction, the strings enrollment at SMNW has grown from fourteen players in one orchestra to 120 players in three orchestras. In addition to the string orchestras, he conducts the Northwest Symphony Orchestra. Orchestras under his direction have appeared at the Kansas Music Educators Association In-Service Workshop and the American String Teachers Association National Orchestra Festival. Apart from his music career, Jeffrey is also a certified personal trainer and cycling coach.

A published composer and writer, Mr. Bishop is in demand as a clinician throughout the United States. He has appeared as a clinician at the Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic and at the ASTA National Convention. He has guest-conducted all-state and regional orchestras in Kansas, Illinois, Missouri, Texas, Oregon, and Minnesota. His articles have appeared in the books *Teaching Music Through Performance in Orchestra* (Vol. 1, 2 & 3) and *The String Teacher's Cookbook*, and in the magazines *The Instrumentalist* and *Orchestra News*.

Mr. Bishop won the 1997 National School Orchestra Association Composition Contest for his *Symphony for Strings No. 1*. Since then he has had over three-dozen pieces published by the Neil A. Kjos Music Company, Wingert-Jones Music Publications, and C-Alan Publications. He continues to receive commissions from college, high school, junior high, regional, and state ensembles across the country.

Mr. Bishop currently resides in Prairie Village, Kansas, with his wife Amy Fear-Bishop, also a graduate of Wichita State University. Ms. Fear-Bishop is the Director of Orchestras at Blue Valley High School in Stilwell, Kansas. They are both founding members of Renaissance Cycling, a local bicycle racing team sponsored by Jeffrey's personal training business, Renaissance Coaching, LLC.

The Composition

Commissioned by the Mabry Middle School Orchestra of Marietta, GA, directed by Chris Doemel, *Persephone's Revenge* was inspired by the ancient Greek myth of Persephone (see the **Learning Bank** on p. 3 and the backs of parts). The piece strives to capture that moment in Persephone's tale just before she is released by Hades in the spring. Strive for rhythmic precision on the opening cello/bass line as this will recur throughout the piece in all parts. In mm. 12 and 14 in the violin part (and all subsequent passages), work for evenness of tone during the string crossings on the open strings. The true character of the work is created by the accents on beat 1, the "and" of 2, and beat 4 throughout the piece. Bring out these accents as much as possible without sacrificing tone quality. Fingerings have been included in the more difficult sections to aid players; however, it is up to the discretion of the conductor to use these fingerings, especially if you feel that an alternate fingering would work better for your ensemble. Careful attention to the dynamic contrasts will also aid in creating the proper programmatic effect.

Above all else, have fun with this dark, driving work that celebrates the return of spring. Best wishes for a great performance!

Instrumentation List (Set C)

- 8 – 1st Violin
- 8 – 2nd Violin
- 5 – Viola
- 5 – Cello
- 5 – String Bass
- 1 – Full Conductor Score

Additional scores and parts are available.

To hear a recording of this piece or any other Kjos publication, please visit www.kjos.com.

Learning Bank: The Myth of Persephone



The Return of Persephone, by Frederic Leighton (1891)

Demeter, the goddess of the harvest, had an only daughter named Persephone. One day, the beautiful Persephone was picking flowers when Hades, king of the underworld, rose from the ground to kidnap her. On his black chariot, Hades rushed with his captive to his kingdom underground; there, he intended to make Persephone his wife. Demeter was incensed and heart-broken. She was so devastated that she withheld the bounty of her harvest from the earth, and famine threatened the human race as she frantically searched for her missing daughter. Finally, Zeus, the king of the gods, realized that until Demeter's daughter was returned to her, the world would be cold and barren. He ordered that Hades release Persephone at once. The lonely king of the underworld did as he was told, but before letting his captive go, he tricked her into eating seeds from a pomegranate, knowing that whoever ate or drank in the underworld would be forced to stay there. For every seed that she ate, Persephone would have to return to the underworld for one month. Reunited with her mother, the world came to life and the harvest returned to the fields; but every year, Persephone would forevermore be forced to spend four months in the underworld with Hades. Thus began the change in seasons. The earth went bitterly cold in the months that Persephone lived with Hades, but flourished upon her return in the spring and summer.

Commissioned by the 2009-2010 Mabry Middle School Orchestras,
Marietta, Georgia. Chris Doemel, Director.

Persephone's Revenge

Full Conductor Score
Approx. time – 4:30

Jeffrey S. Bishop

Allegro furioso (♩ = 144)

Musical score for measures 1-4. The score is for Violins (1 and 2), Viola, Cello, and String Bass. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is Allegro furioso with a quarter note equal to 144 beats per minute. The dynamics are marked *f* (forte). Measure 1 includes fingering (1, 3, 0) and bowing (V) markings. Measure 2 includes a first ending bracket (L1) over measures 3 and 4. Measure 3 includes a second ending bracket (L2) over measures 3 and 4. Measure 4 includes a third ending bracket (L3) over measures 3 and 4. The Cello and String Bass parts feature a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.

Musical score for measures 5-8. The score is for Violins (1 and 2), Viola, Cello, and String Bass. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 4/4. The dynamics are marked *f* (forte). Measure 5 includes fingering (5, 0) and bowing (V) markings. Measure 6 includes a first ending bracket (L1) over measures 7 and 8. Measure 7 includes a second ending bracket (L2) over measures 7 and 8. Measure 8 includes a third ending bracket (L3) over measures 7 and 8. The Cello and String Bass parts continue with the rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.

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9

1 Vlns. 10 11 12 V

2 Vlns. V

Vla. L2 mf L1 L2

Cello mf

Str. Bass V

13 14 15 16 V

1 Vlns. V

2 Vlns. V

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass V

17 18 L1 19 L2 20

1 Vlns. V

2 Vlns. mp V

Vla. mp V

Cello 1 3 4 1 4 2 1 4

Str. Bass D str. V mp

21 22 23 24

1 Vlns.

2 Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

D str.

25 26 27 28

1 Vlns.

2 Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

sub. p

mf

p

mp

mf

29 30 31 32

1 Vlns.

2 Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

f

mp

f

p

f

mp

f

mp

33 34 35 36

Vlns. 1

Vlns. 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

37 38 39 40

Vlns. 1

Vlns. 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

mp

f

41 42 43 44

Vlns. 1

Vlns. 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

64 65 66 67 68 69

Vlns. 1 *mf*

Vlns. 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

D.str.

70 **A tempo** (♩=144)

71 72 73

Vlns. 1 *f*

Vlns. 2 *f*

Vla. *f*

Cello *f*

Str. Bass *f*

74 75 76 77

Vlns. 1

Vlns. 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

78 79 80 81

Vlns. 1

Vlns. 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

mp

D str.

82 83 84 85

Vlns. 1

Vlns. 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

mp

D str.

86 87 88 89

Vlns. 1

Vlns. 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

sub. mp

L1

L2

90 91 92 93

Vlns. 1

Vlns. 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

94 95 96 97

Vlns. 1

Vlns. 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

98 99 100 101 102

Vlns. 1

Vlns. 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

103 104 105 106

Vlns. 1 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

f *mf*

107 108 109 110 111

Vlns. 1 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

112 113 114 115 116

Vlns. 1 2

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

ff