

Peter Maxwell Davies

FROM STONE TO THORN

*Full Score*

BOOSEY & HAWKES



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# FROM STONE TO THORN

for Mezzo-Soprano and small Instrumental Ensemble

*Full Score*

Boosey & Hawkes

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**Condemnation**

The winter jar of honey and grain  
Is a Lenten urn.

**Cross**

Lord, it is time. Take our yoke  
And sunwards turn.

**First Fall**

To drudge in furrows till you drop  
Is to be born

**Mother of God**

Out of the mild mothering hill  
And the chaste burn.

**Simon**

God-begun, the barley rack  
By man is borne.

**Veronica**

Foldings of women. Your harrow sweat  
Darkens her yarn.

**Second Fall**

Sower-and-Seed, one flesh, you fling  
From stone to thorn.

**Women of Jerusalem**

You are bound for the Kingdom of Death. The enfolded  
Women mourn.

**Third Fall**

Scythes are sharpened to bring you down,  
King Barleycorn.

**The Stripping**

Flails creak. Golden coat  
From kernel is torn.

**The Crucifixion**

The fruitful stones thunder around,  
Quern on quern.

**Death**

The last black hunger rages through you  
With hoof and horn.

**Pieta**

Mother, fold him from those furrows,  
Your broken bairn.

**Sepulchre**

Shepherd, angel, king are kneeling, look,  
In the door of the barn.



This work was commissioned by Jesus College, Oxford, on the occasion of their 400th anniversary and was first performed on 30th June 1971 in the Holywell Music Room, Oxford, by Mary Thomas, with Alan Hacker, Stephen Pruslin, Timothy Walker and Barry Quinn, conducted by the composer.

#### INSTRUMENTATION

Clarinet in A or Basset Clarinet in A

\*Percussion (1 player)

Guitar

Harpsichord (2-manual)

\*glockenspiel, coiled spring (ideally a large grandfather clock spring), 3 temple blocks (very small, small, large), 2 wood blocks (very small, small), bell tree, 3 cymbals (small, large, very large), wind chimes, tam-tam, small bass drum (with double-headed beater), flexatone

Note: Transposing instruments written in C in the score.

*Duration: 20 minutes*



# FROM STONE TO THORN

\*) Words by  
GEORGE MACKAY BROWN

PETER MAXWELL DAVIES  
(1971)

**Allegro** (♩ = 192; ♪ = 96; ♩ = 64)  $\sharp$

Clarinet

Clock spring (held at one end and quite gently moved up and down, so that the metal coils rub together to produce a complex swishing sound)

Percussion

2 Temple blocks (soft sticks) small large *p*

Guitar

Voice

Harpsichord

8<sup>1</sup> 4<sup>1</sup> 8<sup>1</sup> Lute *f*

Cl.

Perc.

Gt.

Voice

Hpsch.

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**A**

Cl. *p* *dolce*

Perc. Clockspring *f*

Gt. *f*

Voice *mf*

The win - - - ter - - - jar - - - of ho - - -

Hpsch. 8' 4' *p*

Cl. *p vib., dolce* *pp*

Perc.

Gt. *p* *mf* *f* *p* *f* *p*

Voice *p*

- ney - and grain - - - Is - - - a - - - Len -

Hpsch. *f*

**B**

Cl. *p* *mp* *mf* *p* *p*

Gt. *f* *mf* *vib.* *f*

Voice *pp* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

ten urn.

Hpsch.

*rit.*

Cl. *pp* *p* *dim.* *pp*

Gt.

Voice (n)

Hpsch. *p*

**C** Quasi recit., lento, molto tranquillo

Cl. *pppp* *pp:pppp* *pp* *pppp* *pp* *vib. molto*

Voice *pppp* (humming inwardly) *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

Mm Mm Lord,

**lento** ♩ = 100

Cl. *pp colla parte*

Gt. *vib. p*

Voice *pp*  
it — is — time. — Take — our

**rit.** **tempo** **rit.**

Cl. *pp*

Gt. *pp p ppp*

Voice *ten.*  
yoke — And sun - wards tu - m.

**D allegretto** ♩ = 160

Glock. *p*

Perc. *p*  
Bell tree  
2 Wood blocks  
soft sticks  
very small  
small *p dolce*

Hpsch. *p*  
8' Lute  
8' 4'



Glock.

Perc. B.T.

Wd. Blk.

Hpsch.

E

Perc.

Hpsch.

Perc.

Hpsch.

**F** freely *molto lento* ♩ = 60 *poco a poco più andante,*

Cl. *pp*

Perc. *p* Wind Chimes  
*p* Bell tree  
*p* 2 Wd. Blks. small  
*p* 3 Sus. Cyms. small  
*mf* large spin strike (soft stick)  
*v. large* spin *l.v.*

Voice *pp*  
 To drudge in fur

*recitando*

Cl. *pp:pp* *p* *pp* *slow arp; freely*

Gt. *p dolce*

Voice *poco cresc.* *mf* *dim.*  
 rows till you drop

*molto lento* ♩ = 60

Cl. *pp* *lunga* *tap*

Perc. *pp* *lunga*  
 Bell tree  
 Spring  
 2 Wd. Blks. very small  
 Temple Blk. *lunga*

Gt. *lunga*

Voice *pp* *ppp* *pp* *ppp* *lunga*  
 Is to be born

\*) Diads, with resultant overtones

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**G** Moderato ♩ = 100

Cl. *pp* *pp* *p* *pp* *p* *pp*

Perc. Temple Block (large) *p*

Gt. *p* dolce semplice *sim.*

Voice Out \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_

Cl. *p* *pp*

Perc.

Gt.

Voice \_\_\_\_\_ the mild \_\_\_\_\_ mo - ther - ing hill \_\_\_\_\_

Cl. *poco sfpp* *sim.*

Perc.

Gt. *stacc.* *pp*

Voice *leggieriss.* *pp* And \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_

\*) x means: struck on body of instrument and allowed to resonate

Cl. *sim.* *sim.*

Perc. *colla voce*

Gt. *p ten. l.v.*

Voice *chaste* *burn.*

**H** *lento, recitando* ♩ = 54 *rit.*

Cl. *poco sf*

Perc. *pp*

Gt. *vib., espr. p (slow arps.)*

Voice

**I** *allegro moderato* ♩ = 144  
smaller Wd. Blk.

Perc. *sf*

Gt. *sf* *declamatory* *sf (quick arps.)* *arp. sim.*

Voice *God - - - be - gun, the bar - ley*

Hpsch. *8' Lute* *8' 16'*

Perc. *Wd. Blk.*

Gt.

Voice

rack By man

Hpsch.

Cl. *poco rit.* **J** *a tempo* *flutter* *pp*

Glock.

Perc. *Temple Block (very small)* *Wd. Blk.* *dolce* *p*

Gt. *mp*

Voice *humming* *p* is borne. Mm . . . .

Hpsch. *8! 4!* *very slow arp.*

rit.

Cl.

Glock.

Perc. Bell tree

T. Blk.

Gt.

Voice

Mm . . . . . Mm . . . . .

Hpsch.

lento

[K] molto lento ♩ = 56; ♩ = 112

Cl.

Glock.

Perc. Bell tree

T. Blk.

T-tam.

Small B. D.

metal beater swung inside rim *l.v.*

Gt.

Voice

8' Lute

8' Lute

*f* sempre

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Cl. *mp* *p* *pp* *mp* *p* *pp* *mp* *p* *mp* *p*

Perc. T-tam. *sim.* B.D. *p* *pp*

Hpsch. *mf* *mp* *p*

Cl. *mp* *p* *mp* *p* *pp* *L* Flex. *ppp*

Perc. T-tam. *p* *ord.* *pp* *sonore* *ppp*

B.D. *pp* *ppp* *molto p* *tenebroso* *pp* *ppp*

Voice Fol - - dings of - - wo - - - -

Hpsch. *pp*

Cl. Flex. *p* *pp* *pp* *p* *pp* *mp*

Perc. Flex. Cyms. *ppp*

Voice - men. - - Your - - har - - row - - sweat -

Hpsch. 8' 16'

Cl. M

Flex.

Perc.

3 Cyms. small  
4 large  
4 very large

Voice

Dar

Hpsch.

8<sup>l</sup> Lute

Cl.

Flex.

Perc.

Cyms.

Voice

- kens her yarn.

Hpsch.

8<sup>l</sup> Lute

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Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for page 12 of a piece. It features five staves: Clarinet (Cl.), Flexa (Flex.), Percussion (Perc.), Voice, and Harpsichord (Hpsch.). The Clarinet part starts with a measure marked 'M' in a box. Dynamics range from *pp* to *ppp*. The Percussion part includes three cymbals (small, large, very large) with various rhythmic patterns. The Voice part has lyrics 'Dar', '- kens', 'her', and 'yarn.' with melodic lines and dynamic markings. The Harpsichord part includes an 8<sup>l</sup> Lute section. The score is divided into two systems by a double bar line. The bottom system continues the musical themes from the top system.



Cl. *pp* *p* *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *ppp* *p* *mp*

Flex.

Perc. Cym. sm. *pp* *ppp* *ord.* *pp*

v.l. spin *pp* *ppp*

small B.D. *pp* *ppp*

Voice *p* *mp*  
So - wer - and -

Hpsch. *8' 16'* *8' Lute*

Cl. *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp* *p* *mp* *p* *pp* *p* *mp* *ppp* *p*

Flex.

Perc. Cym. sm. *ppp*

l. *ord.* *pp* *ord.* *pp*

v.l. *pp* *pp*

Voice *pp* *mp* *pp* *p* *mp* *p* *pp* *p* *mp* *pp* *p*  
- Seed, — one — flesh, — you fling From stone — to —

Hpsch. *8' 16'* *5* *3*

Cl. *pp p pp p p mp mp*

Perc. Flex. *pp mp*

Voice *pp p pp p* *keening*  
 thorn. \_\_\_\_\_ You are bound for the King - dom of \_\_\_\_\_

Hpsch.

Cl. *pp p pp mp mp pp mp mp mp:pp pppp* rit.

Perc.

Voice  
 Death. The en - fol - ded Wo - - men - mourn. \_\_\_\_\_

Hpsch. *8! Lute*

**O** **allegro**  $\text{♩} = 176$

Glock.

Perc. *f*

*sffz* *f sempre* *mf*

*\*) Gt.*

*\*) Guitar on 2 staves for clarity*

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Glock.

Perc.

Gt.

**P**

dampen

*mp*

*f*

Glock.

Perc.

Gt.

*mp*

*f*

Glock.

Perc.

Gt.

Voice

**Q**

*p*

*f*

*p*

*f*

Scythes are shar - pened —

Glock.

Perc.

Voice

— to bring you down, — King Bar - - - ley - corn. —

**R** poco più animato

Perc. Glock.

*p* *f* *p* *p* *f* *p*

Gt. *p* *f* *p*

Perc. Glock.

*f* *p* *f*

Gt. *mf* *f* *mp* *f*

**S**

Perc. Glock.

*f* *p*

Gt. *f* *sonore* *freely* 6:7 *sim.*

Voice *f*

Flails creak. Gol - - den

Perc. Glock.

*f*

Gt. 7:6 *sim.*

Voice

coat From ker - - nel is torn.

**T** piu animato

17

Perc. Glock. *piu f*  
small Wd. Blk. *sf*

Gt. *piu f*

Voice *piu f*  
The fruit - ful stones

Perc. *sim.*

Gt. *5:3*

Voice  
thun - der a - round, Quern on quern.

**U** *accel.* **V**

Perc. *sf*

Gt. *sf* *sonore* *fff*

Voice *ff molto*  
The

**stretto**

Cl. *pp* *mf* *f*

Glock *fff*

Perc. *fff*

Wd. Bk. *fff*

Gt. *fff*

Voice

last black hun - ger ra - - ges, ra - - ges, ra - - ges

Cl. *sf:ppp* *fff*

Perc.

Gt.

Voice

through you With hoof and horn.

**W** *presto furioso* ♩ = 200  
quasi cadenza *vib.*

Cl. *ff* *p* *ff* *vib.*

Cl. *meno presto*  $\text{♩} = c.120$  *più lento. - rit.* *lento*  $\text{♩} = 50$  19

*f* *ff* *mf* *ff* *p* *echo* (with harmonics) *ppp* quasi armonichi

Cl. *presto*  $\text{♩} = 144$  *prestissimo*

*pp* *p* *mf* *ppp*

Cl. *poco rit. - più rit.*

*mp* *mf* *f* *ff* *ffz-f*

[X] *lento*  $\text{♩} = 54$

Cl. *ppp* smaller Wd. Bk.

Perc. *ppp* 3 Cyms. *very large* (centre) *Wind Chimes* *pp* *largesim.* *p* *small sim.* *pp*

Voice *ppp* *pp* Mo - ther, — fold — him — from those fur-rows, Your bro - ken bairn.

Hpsch. *8<sup>l</sup> Lute* *8<sup>7/4</sup> 8<sup>l</sup> Lute* *p*

**Y**

Cl. *warm tone*  
*pp*

Perc. *Flex.*  
*pp*

Gt. *warm, vib.*  
*pp*

Voice *p semplice*  
Shep - - herd, — an - gel, king — are knee - ling, look

Hpsch. 8' Harp {

**Z**

Cl. *rit.*

Perc. *Flex.*  
*ppp*

Gt. *slow arp.*  
*pp dolce*

Voice  
In the door — of — the barn. —

Hpsch.