

# Animal Verses of Ogden Nash

## 1. The Duck

Ogden Nash

Marion Verhaalen

Mechanically ♩ = 108

Be - hold the duck! It does not

cluck, a cluck it lacks, it quacks! It is

'spe-cial-ly fond of a pud-dle or a pond. When it dines or

*a little slower*

*a little slower*

"The Duck," "The Wapiti," "The Seagull," "The Pigeon," "The Lamb," "The Firefly,"  
 "The Octopus," "The Porcupine," and "The Panther" by Ogden Nash  
 Used by permission of Curtis Brown, Ltd.

Copyright © 1940, 1933, 1940, 1940, 1940, 1942, 1942, 1949, 1949

All rights reserved

© Copyright 2007 for ALL COUNTRIES by Santa Barbara Music Publishing, Inc.

Printed in the U.S.A.

sup's, it bot - toms ups!

The first system consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in treble clef and contains the lyrics "sup's, it bot - toms ups!". The piano accompaniment is in bass clef and features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in the left hand and chords in the right hand.

## 2. The Wapiti

With a hop ♩ = 88

*mp*

*mf*

There goes the Wa-pi - ti, hip - pi - ty hop-pi - ty.

The second system is titled "2. The Wapiti" and includes the instruction "With a hop ♩ = 88". It features a piano accompaniment in 6/8 time, marked *mp*, and a vocal line marked *mf*. The lyrics are "There goes the Wa-pi - ti, hip - pi - ty hop-pi - ty." The piano accompaniment has a steady eighth-note bass line and chords in the right hand. The vocal line is in treble clef and follows the lyrics. A large red watermark "For Perusal Only" is overlaid on the middle of the page.

## 3. The Seagull

Slow and dreamy  $\text{♩} = 42$

*pp*

with pedal

*mp*

Hark to the whim-per of the

sea - gull, he weeps be-cause he's not an ea - gle. Sup -

pose you were, you sil - ly sea - gull, could you ex-plain it,

*p* slower

could you ex-plain it to your she - gull?

*pp* slower

#### 4. The Pigeon

Seriously ♩ = 104

*mp*

with pedal

*mf*

There is noth-ing in an - y re - li - gi - on which com - pels us to

*mf*

love the pi - geon.

## 5. The Lamb

Happily ♩ = 104

*mf*

*mf*

Lit - tle gam-bol-ing lamb, do you know where you am?

*rit.*

**For Perusal Only**

*rit.*

*a tempo*

I'll give you a hint: Scram, Lamb!

*a tempo*

Detailed description: The image shows a musical score for a piece titled '5. The Lamb'. It is in 6/8 time and B-flat major. The tempo is marked 'Happily ♩ = 104'. The score consists of four systems. The first system is a piano introduction with a treble clef and a bass clef, featuring a melody in the bass line with a 'mf' dynamic and a 'rit.' marking. The second system includes a vocal line with the lyrics 'Lit - tle gam-bol-ing lamb, do you know where you am?' and piano accompaniment. The third system continues the vocal line with the lyrics 'In a patch of mint!' and piano accompaniment, with a 'rit.' marking. The fourth system concludes with the lyrics 'I'll give you a hint: Scram, Lamb!' and piano accompaniment, with an 'a tempo' marking. A large red watermark 'For Perusal Only' is overlaid on the third system.

## 6. The Firefly

Brightly ♩ = 92

The musical score is written in 2/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The tempo is marked 'Brightly' with a quarter note equal to 92 beats per minute. The score consists of four systems of music.

The first system shows the piano introduction with a treble clef staff containing a melodic line with slurs and a bass clef staff with a bass line featuring triplets and accents. The dynamic marking is *f*.

The second system introduces the vocal line. The lyrics are: "The Fire - fly's flame is". The piano accompaniment continues with triplets in the bass line.

The third system continues the vocal line with the lyrics: "some - thing for which ac - cence has no name". A large red watermark "For Perusal Only" is overlaid across this system.

The fourth system concludes the vocal line with the lyrics: "I can think of noth - ing ee - ri - er,". The piano accompaniment includes triplets and a *sim.* (simile) marking. The dynamic marking is *mf*.

*mp*

than fly-ing a - round with an un - i - den-ti-fied glow

*slower*  
*p*

on a per-son's pos - ter - ior.

*slower*  
*pp*

**For Perusal Only**

## 7. The Octopus

**Pleadingly** ♩ = 100

*mp* *sim.*

*mp* *sim.*

Tell me, O Oc - to-pus I begs,

Is those things arms or is they legs?

The first system of the musical score consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are "Is those things arms or is they legs?". The piano accompaniment is in grand staff (treble and bass clefs) with the same key signature and time signature. The piano part features a steady eighth-note bass line and a treble line with chords and moving lines.

I mar-vel at thee, O Oc - to-pus,

The second system continues the musical score. The vocal line has a triplet of eighth notes marked with a '3' above them. The lyrics are "I mar-vel at thee, O Oc - to-pus,". The piano accompaniment includes a piano dynamic marking (*p*) and features sustained chords in the bass and treble.

**For Perusal Only**

If I were thou, I'd call me us.

The third system continues the musical score. The vocal line has the lyrics "If I were thou, I'd call me us.". The piano accompaniment continues with sustained chords and a moving bass line.

*rit.* *pp*

The fourth system shows the piano accompaniment concluding the piece. It includes a *rit.* (ritardando) marking and a *pp* (pianissimo) dynamic marking. The music ends with sustained chords in both hands.



## 8. The Porcupine

Stiffly  $\text{♩} = 126$  *mf*

An - y hound a

*mf*

por - cu - pine nudg - es can't be blamed for har - bor - ing grudg - es.

I know one hound who laughed all win - ter, at a por - cu - pine

*mf*

who sat on a splin - ter!

*pp*

© protection

leo - pard, ex - cept it has - n't been pep - pered.

This system features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a common time signature. The piano accompaniment consists of a right-hand treble clef and a left-hand bass clef. The lyrics are: "leo - pard, ex - cept it has - n't been pep - pered."

Should you behold a panther crouch, prepare to say... ouch!

This system continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Should you behold a panther crouch, prepare to say... ouch!". The piano accompaniment includes a dynamic marking of *sf* (sforzando) at the end of the system.

*mp slower* Bet - ter yet, if called by a pan - ther: *a tempo* Don't

*p slower* *a tempo*

This system includes dynamic and tempo markings. The vocal line starts with *mp slower* and ends with *a tempo*. The piano accompaniment starts with *p slower* and ends with *a tempo*. The lyrics are: "Bet - ter yet, if called by a pan - ther: Don't".

an - ther!

This system concludes the piece with the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "an - ther!". The piano accompaniment features a dynamic marking of *sf* (sforzando).