

A Ladle of Limericks

for choir and piano

1. The Cyclist
2. The Gardener
3. Robin

with optional drums / bass guitar

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A Ladle of Limericks

1. The Cyclist: words by Joseph Mullins,
after his daughter had experienced a difficult day with her new
teacher, Miss Brewer. The limerick was created in the late 1920's,
when butchers delivered on bikes and used skewers to fasten things together.

*There was a young lass called Miss Brewer,
who was riding a bike when it threw her.
A butcher came by and said
"Missis, don't cry!"
And he fastened her on with a skewer!*

2. The Gardener: words by the composer as a birthday greeting!
'Codger' is an affectionate term for an old man
with eccentric or humorous ways.

*There was an old codger from Leeds,
loved gard'ning and sowing new seeds.
His nephews and nieces,
though they loved him to pieces,
annoyed him by planting some weeds!*

3. Robin: words by the composer; to be used as a positive
solution in case anyone forgets to put on their shoes!

*When Robin went out for his news...
...paper, thinking he'd put on his shoes,
he found to his shock
that he'd put on a frock
but he covered by singing the blues!*

Robin was premièred by Liverpool Phoenix Voices in June 2024,
with Mary Gannon (piano) and Ritchie Ballard (bass guitar).

Total duration: 4 mins.

1. The Cyclist.

Bright and lively

$\text{♩} = 52$

SOPRANO

Miss Brew er, Miss

ALTO

Miss Brew- er, _

TENOR

Miss Brew- er, _

BASS

Miss Brew- er, _

Piano

$\text{♩} = 52$

mf *mp* *f* *mf*

5

Brew er. There was a young lass called Miss Brew er, _

Miss Brew- er. _ Was a lass called Miss Brew er, _

Miss Brew- er. _ Was a lass called Miss

Miss Brew- er. _ Was a lass called

mf *mp* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mp* *p* *mf*

9

who was ri - ding a bike when it threw her, *f* it threw her! *mf* She was

mp ri - ding bike it threw... *f* it threw her!

mp Brew - er, ri - ding bike it threw... One voice It what? It did?

mf Miss Brew - er, *mp* ri - ding bike it threw... One voice It what? It did?

p

13

ri - ding a bike when it threw her. *f* A but - cher came by, *mp* and said Miss - is don't cry,

mp Ri - ding bike it threw her. *mp* A but - cher, a but - cher came by, *p* Miss - is, said *mp*

mp Tutti Ri - ding bike it threw her. *mp* A but - cher, a but - cher came by, *p* Miss - is, said *mp*

mp Tutti Ri - ding bike it threw her. *mp* A but - cher, a but - cher came by, *p* Miss - is, said *mp*

mf *p*

18

mf and he fa-stened her on with a skew-er,— *f* and he fa-stened her on with a

miss-is don't cry, *mf* Fa - stened her with a skew-er,— he fa - stened her with a

miss-is don't cry, *mf* Fa - stened her with skew - er, he fa - stened her with a

miss-is don't cry, *mf* Fa - stened her with skew - er, he fa - stened her with a

mp

mf

22

mf skew er... Miss Brew-er, *f* Miss Brew er!—

skew er... *mf* Miss Brew-er, *f* Miss Brew er!—

skew er... *mf* Miss Brew-er, *f* Miss Brew er!—

skew er... *mf* Miss Brew-er, *f* Miss Brew er!—

mf *cresc.* *f*

2 The Gardener.

Calm at first then dramatic!

1 $\text{♩} = 82$ *Legato* *mf*

There was an old cod-ger from Leeds, _____ loved

mf

There was an old cod-ger from Leeds, _____ loved

mp

There was a cod-ger from Leeds, _____

mp

There was a cod-ger from Leeds, _____

$\text{♩} = 82$ *Legato* *mf* *mp* Spiky and increasingly dramatic!

8

gard-'ning and sow-ing new seeds. _____ His ne-phews and nie-ces though they

gard-'ning and sow-ing new seeds. _____ His ne-phews and nie-ces though they

mf

gard-'ning, sow-ing new seeds. _____ Ne-phews, nie-ces,

mf

gard-'ning, sow-ing new seeds. _____ Ne-phews, nie-ces,

poco cresc. *sempre cresc.*

14

loved him to pie - ces, an - noyed him by

loved him to pie - ces, an - noyed him by

loved him pie - ces, an - noyed him by

loved him pie - ces, an - noyed him by

f

f

f



17 **poco rall.** *Witch-like, breathy!* **molto rall.**

plan - ting some weeds! Ha! ha! ha! ha!

plan - ting some weeds! Ha! ha! ha! ha!

plan - ting some weeds! Ha! ha! ha! ha!

plan - ting some weeds! Ha! ha! ha! ha!

ff

ff

ff

ff

poco rall. **molto rall.**

3 Robin

Laidback feel; swing quavers throughout

1 ♩ = 82

mf mp mf

Da, da-dn-doo da, Da, da, da-dn-doo da, Da da,

mf mp mf

Da, da-dn-doo da, Da, da, da-dn-doo da, Da, da,

mf mp mf

Da, da-dn-doo da, Da, da, da-dn-doo da, Da, da,

♩ = 82

Laidback feel; swing quavers throughout

mf mp mf

da-dn -doo da, Da da, da-dn-doo da, Da da, Da da,

mf mp f

da-dn -doo da, Da da, da-dn-doo da, Da da, Da da,

mf mp f

da-dn -do da, Da da, da-dn-doo da, Da da, Da da,

4

11

mf Da da, da-dn-doo da, *mp* Doo, doo,

mf Da da, da-dn-doo da, *f* When Ro bin went out for his news

mf Da da, da-dn-doo da, *mp* Doo, doo,

mf Da-ba-da-ba, da-ba-da-ba, Da-ba-da-ba, da-ba-da-ba,

8

mf *mp*

15

doo, Doo,

pa - per, Doo,

f doo, for his news. Think - ing that he'd

Da - ba - da - ba, da - ba - da - ba, Da - ba - da - ba, da - ba - da, Da - ba da - ba, da - ba - da - ba,

4

mf

sim.

18

doo,— doo,— doo. He found

doo,— doo, oh yes he did, doo.

put on his shoes, doo.

Da - ba da - ba, da - ba da, Da - ba da - ba, da - ba da - ba, da - ba, da - ba, da - ba da,

21

to his shock that he'd put on a frock, Wah!

Da, Shock! shock, he'd put on a frock, Wah! But he

Da, Shock! shock, he'd put on a frock, Wah!

Da-ba da ba, da-ba da-ba Da, shock! shock, he'd put on a frock, Wah!

8

3 3 3

f cresc.

25

mp Doo, _ doo, _ the *mf* doo, _ blues! _ *f cresc.* But he

co-vered by sing - ing _ the blues, doo, _ blues! _

mp Doo, _ doo, _ the doo, _ blues! _

mf Da - ba da - ba, da ba da, da ba da - ba, da ba da. Blues, sing-ing the blues!

mf

f *f cresc.* *f cresc.*

29 *rit.* *molto rit.*

co-vered by sing - ing _ the blues!

mf cresc. Co - vered, sing - ing, Ro-bin he co-vered by sing-ing the blues!

mf cresc. Co - vered, sing - ing, he sang the blues!

mf cresc. Ro - bin, Ro-bin co-vered by sing-ing, sing-ing, sing-ing the blues! _

mf cresc.

rit. *molto rit.*

f cresc. *poco dim.* *cresc.*

f cresc.