

Ben Morris

commissioned by Erich Haller

If You Give a Moose a Muffin



for baritone voice, bass trombone,
and upright bass

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If You Give a Moose a Muffin

for baritone voice, bass trombone,
and upright bass

Total Duration: ca. 6'00"

Text

by Laura Joffe Numeroff

If you give a moose a muffin, he'll want some jam to go with it.
So you'll bring out some of your mother's homemade blackberry jam.
When he's finished eating the muffin, he'll want another. And another. And another.
When they're all gone, he'll ask for more.

You'll have to go to the store to get some muffin mix. He'll want to go with you.
When he opens the door and feels how chilly it is, he'll ask to borrow a sweater.
When he puts the sweater on, he'll notice one of the buttons is loose.
He'll ask for a needle and thread. He'll start sewing.
The button will remind him of the puppets his grandmother used to make.

So he'll ask for some old socks. He'll make sock puppets.
When they're done, he'll want to put on a puppet show.
He'll need some cardboard and paints. Then he'll ask you to help make the scenery.
When the scenery is finished, he'll get behind the couch. But his antlers will stick out.
So he'll ask for something to cover them up. You'll bring him a sheet from your bed.

When he sees the sheet, he'll remember he wants to be a ghost for Halloween.
He'll try it on and shout, "BOO!" It'll scare him so much, he'll knock over the paints.
So he'll use the sheet to clean up the mess. Then he'll ask for some soap to wash it out.
He'll probably want to hang the sheet up to dry.
He'll go outside and put it on the clothesline.

When he's out in the yard, he'll see your mother's blackberry bushes.
Seeing the blackberries will remind him of her jam. He'll probably ask you for some.
And chances are... if you give him the jam, he'll want a muffin to go with it.

C Score

for Erich Haller

If You Give a Moose a Muffin

Laura Joffe Numeroff

for baritone voice, bass trombone,
and upright bass

Ben Morris

Lazy, plodding ♩ = 72

mic'ing optional

rit.

Baritone

Bass Trombone

Contrabass

Bar. 1

harmon mute
(with stem)

rapidly shake hand for "wah" effect

amplification optional

pizz. (jazz-style)

pp < mp pp < mp pp < mp pp <

p

Bar. 5

A a tempo ♩ = 72

mf

("shake wah") ord. → fl.t. doit If you give a moose a muf-fin he'll want some jam to go

B. Tbn.

fp f hammer-on, pull-off (re-articulate G) freely slide up

Cb.

0

Bar. 9

with it. "shake wah" "wah" sim. fl.t. So you'll bring out some of your

B. Tbn.

p mf p

sul tasto, tilt bow down slightly l.h. pizz arco

Cb.

f like a moose call

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2 Bar. 12

mo ther's home-made black-ber-ry jam W - hen he's

B. Tbn.

mf pizz. *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p*

arco *gliss.* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p*

Cb. *mf* *p* *f* *p* *f* *p*

16 Bar.

fin - ished ea - ting the muf - fin he'll want a - nother doit and a - no - ther

B. Tbn.

p *p* *f*

freely slide up

Cb. *f*

rit. 19

and a - no - ther when they're all gone, he'll ask for

B. Tbn.

o + o + harmonic gliss. "sigh" molto s.p. arco (ric.), quasi col legno, with fall arco (ord.)

Cb. *f* *p*

23

a tempo $\text{♩} = 72$ **B** *mf* poco accel. poco più mooso $\text{♩} = 80$

more you'll have to go to the store to get some muf-fin mix quick "wah"

B. Tbn.

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

Cb. *pp* *p*

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27 **p** (an aside) "wah" *mf*

Bar. he'll want to go with you W - hen he o-pens the door and feels how chil-ly it is lip trill fl.t.

B. Tbn. + + → o < *mf* fp arco (s.p.)

Cb. 0 fp

= 30 poco accel. C poco più mooso ♩ = 84

Bar. he'll ask to bor-row a sweat-er when he puts the swe-ater on quick "wah"

B. Tbn. (b) sfz sempre f

Cb. sfz sempre ff

= 34 rit.

Bar. he'll no-tice one of the but-ton is loose

B. Tbn. p + → o gliss. f pizz. *mf* tumbling 5 pp

Cb. 3 5 6

= 36 D ♩ = 66 *mf* tumbling

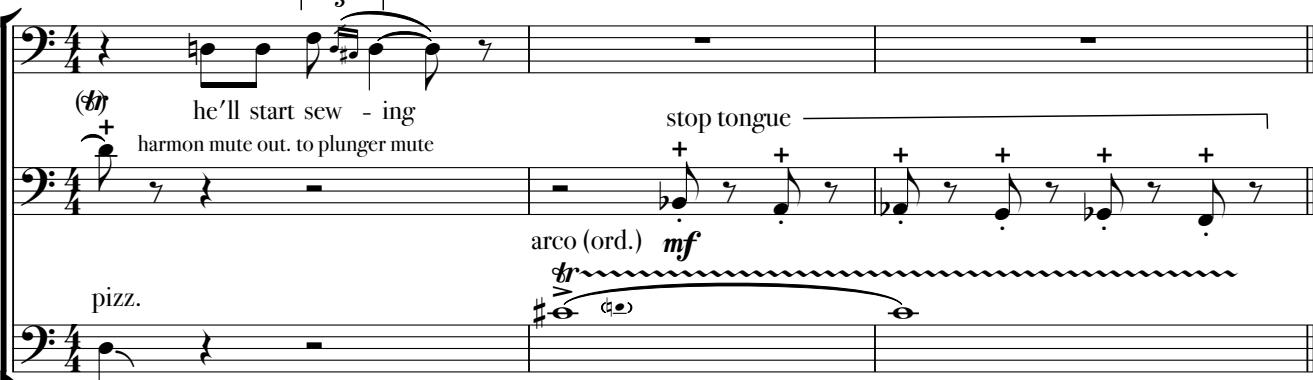
Bar. he'll ask for a nee-dle and thread lip trill

B. Tbn. + + → o + +

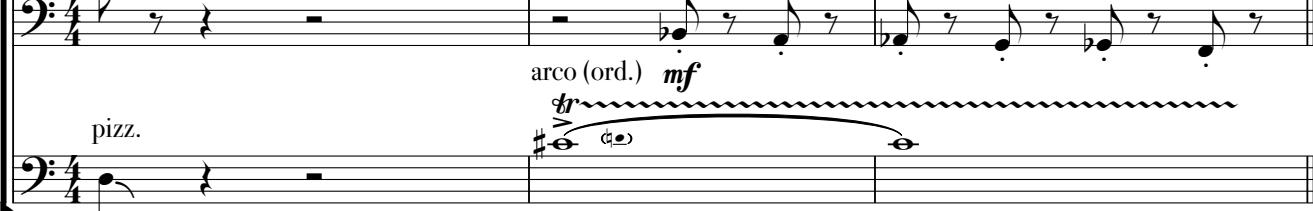
Cb. arco (s.p.) p pp p

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40 **poco accel.**

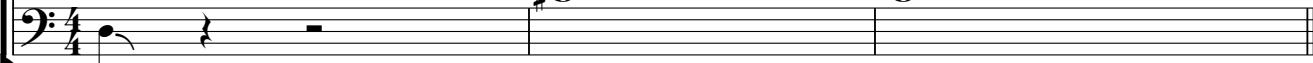
Bar. 

he'll start sew - ing
harmon mute out. to plunger mute

B. Tbn. 

stop tongue + + + + + +

arco (ord.) ***mf***

Cb. 

pizz. # > <

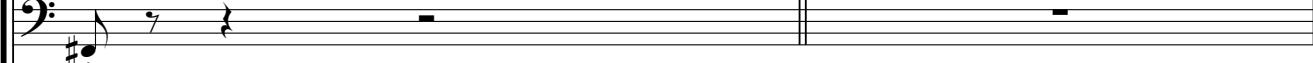
ppp ***f***

43 **E** ***J=80*** **poco rit.** suddenly broad, wisful, nostalgic ***3***

Bar. 

The but-ton will re-mind him of the pu-ppets his grand-mo-ther

"wah" with plunger ⊕

B. Tbn. 

Cb. 

f ***mf*** ***fp***

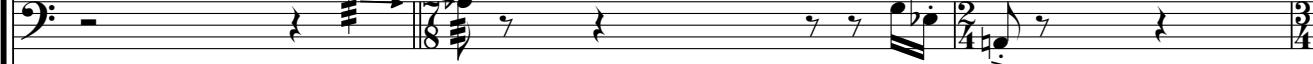
poco accel. ***J=80***

45 pausing to remember...

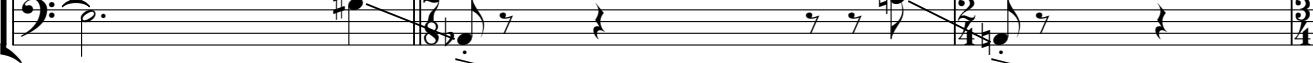
Bar. 

used to make plunger mute so he'll ask for some old so - cks he'll make sock pu-ppets

"wah" with plunger ⊕ ⊕ ⊕

B. Tbn. 

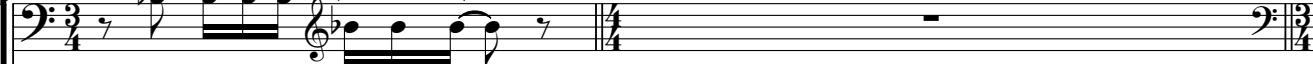
p ***mf***

Cb. 

p ***f***

molto rit. ***freely, broadly***

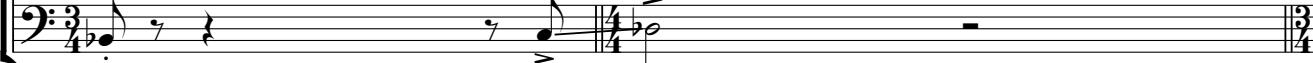
48 **F** ***J=80***

Bar. 

he'll put on a pu-ppet show open

B. Tbn. 

ff suddenly bold, comical

Cb. 

sfp ***p***

G More urgently $\text{J} = 96$ 5

50

Bar. accel.

B. Tbn. he'll need some
 circus-like *mf*

Cb. spicc. *pp* *f* sub. *p*

rit.

53

Bar. card-board and paints then he'll ask you to help make some scen-er - y

B. Tbn. con vib.

Cb. *pp* *mf bold*

H Broad $\text{J} = 66$

lyrical, operatic

Bar. When the scen - er - y is fin - ished he'll get be - hind the
 flap tongue sing and play

B. Tbn.

Cb. harmonic gliss (sul E) *gliss.* *gloss.* *gloss.*

59

(*mf*) **I** sub. $\text{J} = 80$

Bar. couch indeterminate pitch

B. Tbn. *ff suddenly bold, comical* tilt bow down slightly for "moose" sound pizz.

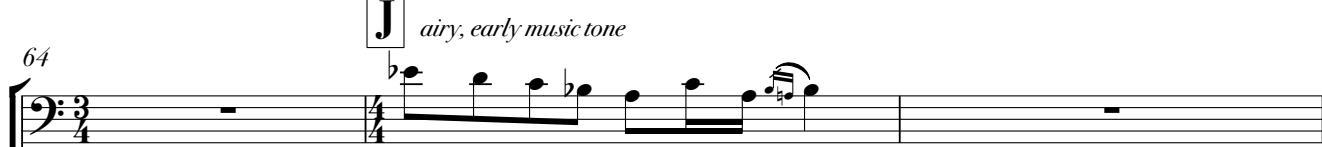
Cb. *f* *gliss.*

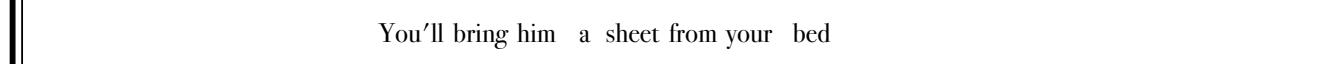
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6 62

Bar. 

Bue his an-tlers_ will stick out! so he'll ask for some thing to co-ver them up

B. Tbn. 

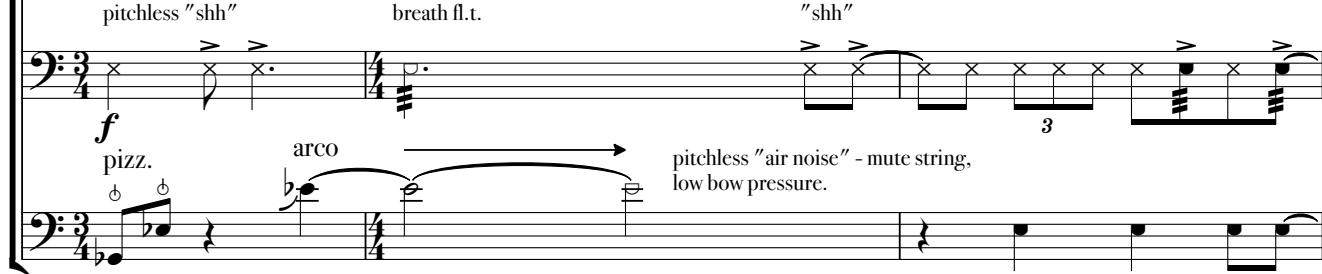
Cb. 

J airy, early music tone

Bar. 64

You'll bring him a sheet from your bed

pitchless "shh" breath fl.t. "shh"

B. Tbn. 

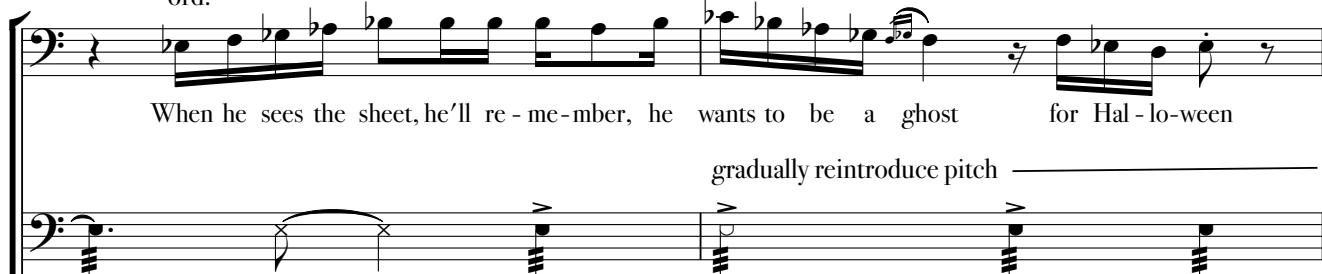
Cb. 

pitchless "air noise" - mute string, low bow pressure.

Bar. 67 ord.

When he sees the sheet, he'll re-me-mber, he wants to be a ghost for Hal-lo-ween

gradually reintroduce pitch

B. Tbn. 

gradually reintroduce pitch

Cb. 

theatrical shout

Bar. 69

he'll try it on and shout It will scare him so much, he'll knock ov-er the paints

doit "BOO!"

B. Tbn. 

ff pinched

pizz. "BOO!"

Cb. 

ff ffffff

16"

K Sudden, crazy burst of activity

improvise, imitate instruments. reactions/noises "ow!" etc.

Bar. 72 *n* *n* *tired, taking a break* *exhale inhale*

L Quickly Moving $\text{♩} = 84$

f

sneak in → "sigh"

dissolving, getting sparser
"shh" breath fl.t. → breath

pointillistic, crazy improv (as fast as possible) doit

B. Tbn. *ff* *n ff*

So he'll use the sheet to clean up the mess

Cb. (pizz.) *fff* etc. *getting sparser, dissolving* *p* *sub ff*

pointillistic, crazy improv (as fast as possible)



Bar. 76 5

Then he'll ask for some soap to wash it out he'll pro-'bly want to hang the sheet up to dry

B. Tbn.

Cb. ricc. quasi col legno *ff*



Bar. 78

"wah" *wah* *doit* *pizz.* *arco*

He'll go out-side to put it on the clothes-line W - hen he's out in the yard

B. Tbn.

Cb.

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8 rit. *ff* *p* **M** $\text{♩} = 66$ sweetly

Bar. he'll see he'll see your mo - ther's black-ber - ry
to harmon mute

B. Tbn. *fff* \Rightarrow *mf* *ppp*

Cb. *fff* *ppp*

Bar. 83 bush-es with harmon mute (stem in) See-ing the black ber- ries will re-mind him of her
B. Tbn. *p* *pp*
Cb. arco *p* *pp*

Bar. 86 *f* *mf* *3* *3* he'll prob-a-bly ask you for some doit and chan-ces are
B. Tbn. *p* *f* freely slide up
Cb. *f* (audible break optional) *n p f*

Bar. 90 shake "wah" if you give him the jam (m) shake "wah"
B. Tbn.
Cb. harmonic gliss. arco pizz. *pp*

N a tempo *p.* $\text{♩} = 72$

pp

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95 rit. a tempo ♩ = 72 poco rit. 9

Bar. - - - - - he'll want a muf-fin to go

B. Tbn. + o sim. + doit freely slide up

Cb. mp pp < mp pp < f

Bar. 99 O a tempo ♩ = 72

with it "shake wah" fl.t.

B. Tbn. fp gliss. gliss. gliss. gliss. flap tongue ~~~ sul tasto, tilt bow down slightly arco l.h. pizz. n pizz.

Cb. f like a moose call ff

Bar. - - - - - he'll want a muf-fin to go

B. Tbn. + o sim. + doit freely slide up

Cb. mp pp < mp pp < f

Bar. 99 O a tempo ♩ = 72

with it "shake wah" fl.t.

B. Tbn. fp gliss. gliss. gliss. gliss. flap tongue ~~~ sul tasto, tilt bow down slightly arco l.h. pizz. n pizz.

Cb. f like a moose call ff