

LEGEND OF THE SLEEPING BEAR

SU478

for Eight Horns in F

Eric Ewazen

I. at play on the Western Shore

In the northeastern corner of Lake Michigan, just off the shore from the giant sand dune, are the North and South Manitou Islands. The Chippewa Indians explain the origin of this scenic wonder in a touching tale known as the *Legend of the Sleeping Bear*.

On the western shore, Mother Bear watches over her two young cubs playing and frolicking in the midst of the vast forest.

Allegro vivace ♩ = 116

6 9

11

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

16

18

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

p

mp

p

mp

p

mp

p

p

21

1 *mf*

2 *mf*

3 *mp*

4 *mp*

5 *mf*

6 *mf*

7 *mp*

8 *mp*

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25

26

1 *p*

2 *p*

3 *p*

4 *p*

5 *p*

6 *p*

7 *p*

8 *p*

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II. escaping the inferno in a journey across the waters

Suddenly, in a single moment, a lightning bolt, a thunder crash, and the forest ignites in flames. Confused and bewildered, Mother Bear and her two cubs run to escape the inferno. But when they arrive at the lake, they are backed up to the shore. What, what to do? No choice, they wade into the water, Mother Bear leading the way, escaping flames as far as they eye can see. They swim toward the east, as day turns to night and stars fill the sky. They swim toward a beautiful sunrise, but now, in the deep water, the cubs fall further and further behind.

Allegro agitato $J=140$

5

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

[9]

f

p

mp

f

56 poco meno mosso $\text{♩} = 120$

Musical score for measures 56-59, marked "poco meno mosso" with a tempo of $\text{♩} = 120$. The score is for an 8-part ensemble. Measures 56-59 show various musical textures, including triplets and dynamic markings such as *p* (piano) and *mp* (mezzo-piano). A large watermark "www.pickey.com" is visible across the score.

Musical score for measures 60-63. Measures 60-63 show various musical textures, including triplets and dynamic markings such as *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *mp* (mezzo-piano). A large watermark "www.pickey.com" is visible across the score.

III. Holding Vigil for the Lost

25

It is daybreak, and as if by magic, the eastern shore appears. Mother Bear swims to the shore, believing her cubs to be with her, but they're not. Mother Bear wanders back and forth along the shore, hoping that the cubs will surely appear, but in the deep waters, the cubs had taken their last breath and drowned. As exhaustion overtakes her, she lies down staring out to sea, holding a vigil for her lost cubs.

Andante $\text{♩} = 60$ [5]

Horn 1
Horn 2
Horn 3
Horn 4
Horn 5
Horn 6
Horn 7
Horn 8

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8

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IV. embraced by the Great Spirit Manitou on the Eastern Shore

The Great Spirit Manitou, who has watched this tragic scene unfold, takes pity on Mother Bear. He gives her a comforting sleep and blankets her with sand to keep her warm. At the spot where the cubs perished, he raises their spirits from the deep, forming two small islands. Now, forevermore, embraced by the Great Spirit Manitou, Mother Bear watches over her two young cubs playing and frolicking in the midst of the Great Lake.

Allegro $\text{♩} = 116$ 3

Horn 1 *mf*

Horn 2 *pp*

Horn 3 *pp*

Horn 4 *pp*

Horn 5 *mf*

Horn 6 *pp*

Horn 7 *pp*

Horn 8 *pp*

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8