

"THREADNEEDLE STREET"

OR: "A Stitch in Time saves Four"

A comic Opera in One Act. Words and Music by STEPHEN DODGSON

INTRODUCTION and No 1: The Four Daughters, Mr. Bobbin, Mrs. Pauter, Mrs. Wicks.

VIVACE, MA NON TRAPPO
(♩ = 96)

The musical score is written on ten systems of staves. The first system shows the beginning of the piece with a treble and bass clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The tempo is marked 'VIVACE, MA NON TRAPPO' with a quarter note equal to 96 beats per minute. The first measure is marked with a forte 'f' dynamic and the tempo marking 'Glocoso'. The score consists of a single melodic line in the upper staff and a piano accompaniment in the lower staff. The piano part features a steady eighth-note accompaniment with various chords and triplets. Dynamics include 'f', 'p subito', 'cresc.', and 'mp'. The piece concludes with a boxed instruction 'CURTAIN!' in the seventh system, followed by a final flourish in the eighth system.

ALL FOUR DAUGHTERS

1. sewing, sewing, all the day,

Poco Rit → 2. stitching, stitching, that's our life,
Tempo → p non legato

fingers sore and eyes a-weary, who would be a tailor's daughter, sewing, sewing
 buttons, heads and silk en linings, Ev'ry pleasure is denied us, stitching, stitching

all - the day! MR. BOBBIN 1. That's the way to make the money, keep them stitching
 that's our life! 2. Pay them nothing, keep them busy, idle hands lead

till they drop. That's the way to treat you daugh-ters, keep them stitching till they drop! DAUGHTERS
 straight to Hell. That's my mot - - to which I find, Sir, suits my bus'ness ve-ry well. sweating, sweating

without pay, No trade union to pro-tect us. Se-ven days in - cluding Sunday, sweating, sweating

mp molto espress

ANGELA 1. How can bear this fearful marriage,

2. Why sh^d I meet a fate so cruel,

1. Tell me O sis-ters true? - I'd ra-ther die than suf-fer so, O tell me what shall

2. Tell me O sis-ters true? the fa-ther all as hard as ours, O tell me what shall

ALICE. ANNE. ANNE

1. An-gela dear, come dry - yr. tears! his ship may be lost - at sea! - ANGELA

do? - 2. An-gela dear, take com - fort do! we'll help you to run - a - way! - 2. W. R.

p molto legato

1. Can't be-ieve it, can't - en - dure it, do - not mock me, do - not taunt me, why must I suf-fer

2. Woe at-ten-ding, all's past mending, what a for-ward! what a fa-ther! why must I suf-fer

pp

Poco Rit → tempo

So? - Why must I suf-fer So?

CHORUS à 2
(off stage)

Fa la la, Fa la, Fa-la-a. Fa la

1st time. last time

la, fa, e - la - la - la - la

mp molto esme

pp

pp

pp

Arrivato (especially 2nd time)

Vivace (♩=76) No 3. CHORUS.

pp

crescendo

f

mf

Handwritten musical score for the piano introduction. It consists of three staves: a treble clef staff with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature, and two bass clef staves. The music features a rhythmic accompaniment with chords and single notes, including dynamic markings like 'f' and 'f3'.

CHORUS UNIS.

Handwritten musical score for the first line of the chorus. It includes a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Bobbins a-way the girls are free in dancing to enjoy their li-ber-ty -". The piano part features a steady rhythmic accompaniment with chords.

Handwritten musical score for the second line of the chorus. It includes a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Bobbins away the sewing's done, a way with y' needles ev-ry-one, we'll dance all the night well". The piano part continues with a rhythmic accompaniment.

Handwritten musical score for the third line of the chorus. It includes a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "dance all the day and we won't stop - while Bobbins a-way. Down with y' cotton, Down with y' thread +". The piano part features a rhythmic accompaniment.

Handwritten musical score for the fourth line of the chorus. It includes a vocal line with lyrics and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "down with y' thimbles come dancing instead, come dancing instead, come dancing, come dancing, come". The piano part features a rhythmic accompaniment.

Handwritten musical notation for the first system, consisting of two staves (treble and bass clef) in a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The music begins with a piano introduction marked with a forte 'f' dynamic.

mp CHORUS (Unus) P cresc

Handwritten musical notation for the second system, including lyrics: "Boil up the water + steam it open, we're dying to see what's in - side! We". The system includes dynamic markings like 'mp' and 'P'.

C R E S C E N D O f

Handwritten musical notation for the third system, including lyrics: "Cannot have An-ge-la working + signing, so boil up the water + steam". The system features a 'Crescendo' marking and a forte 'f' dynamic.

Handwritten musical notation for the fourth system, including lyrics: "it falls open! The covers come loose but take care you don't tear it, we don't want it". The system includes dynamic markings like 'ff' and 'p'.

C R E S C E N D O — Poco — A — Poco —

Handwritten musical notation for the fifth system, including lyrics: "Bobbin pot know we're dying to see what's in - side! has Bobbin pot screaming to". The system features a 'Crescendo' marking and dynamic markings like 'p' and 'ff'.

hide? The steam will soon o-pen it wide! The corners come loose but take

care you don't tear it, the corners come loose but take care you don't tear it, we don't want old Bobbin to

new *mf*
 know. We don't want old Bobbin to know. We're dying to see what's in-side!

p *Creando* *f*
 Has Bobbin got something to hide? So boil up the heater and steam the thing open, and

f *ff*
 let's have a good look in-side! ...side! ...side!
 Sne-ces!