

Sarah Riskind

Austen Observes

for soprano or mezzo-soprano
and piano

"The person, be it gentleman or lady, who has not pleasure in a good novel,
must be intolerably stupid."

— *Northanger Abbey*

"Every man is surrounded by a neighborhood of voluntary spies."

— *Northanger Abbey*

"For what do we live, but to make sport for our neighbors,
and laugh at them in our turn?"

— *Emma*

"Oh! do not attack me with your watch. A watch is always too fast or too slow.
I cannot be dictated to by a watch."

— *Mansfield Park*

Jane Austen (1775-1817)

Austen Observes

I. Novels

Jane Austen

Sarah Riskind

Stately ♩ = 80 *mp*

Soprano/
Mezzo-Soprano

The per-son,

Stately ♩ = 80 *mp*

Piano

6

S. the per-son, be it gen-tle-m n or la - dy, who

Pno. *pp*

11

S. has not plea sure in a good no - vel

Pno. *pp* *pp* *mp*

17 *mf* *f*

S. must be, must be

Pno. *f*

22 *mf* *f*

S. in - tol - er - an - ty stu - pid!

Pno. *p* *f*

II. Neighbors

Dramatically
♩=112

f *submp* **f**

S. 1 E - very man is sur-round-ed by, sur-roun

Dramatically
♩=112

f *subp* **f** *subp* **f**

Pno.

7 **mf**

S. ded-ed by a neigh-bor-hood of vo-lun-ta-ry spies E very man,

Pno. **f**

13 **f**

S. E - very man is sur-round-ed by a neigh-bor-hood of vo-lun-ta-ry spies,

Pno. **f** *mp* **mf**

19 **mf** **f** **mf**

S. sur-roun - ded, sur - roun-ded, sur - roun - ded, E - very man

Pno. **f** **mf**

The image shows a musical score for a piece titled "II. Neighbors". It is a vocal and piano score in 3/4 time, marked "Dramatically" with a tempo of 112. The score is divided into four systems, each with a vocal line (S.) and a piano line (Pno.). The lyrics are: "E - very man is sur-round-ed by, sur-roun ded-ed by a neigh-bor-hood of vo-lun-ta-ry spies E very man, E - very man is sur-round-ed by a neigh-bor-hood of vo-lun-ta-ry spies, sur-roun - ded, sur - roun-ded, sur - roun - ded, E - very man". The piano accompaniment features complex harmonic textures with frequent chromaticism and dynamic shifts between fortissimo (f), mezzo-forte (mf), and piano (p) or sub-piano (subp) levels. A large "SAMPLE COPY" watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page.

25

S. is sur-roun-ded by _____ a neigh-bor-hood of vo-lun-ta-ry spies.

Pno.

31 *mp*

S. For what do we live, for what do we live, _____ But...

Pno. *mp*

38

S. _____ to make sport, but to make sport, make sport for our neigh - bors

Pno.

45 *mp* *mf*

S. _____ and laugh, _____ laugh

Pno. *mp* *mf*


Page Removed from Preview

III. Time

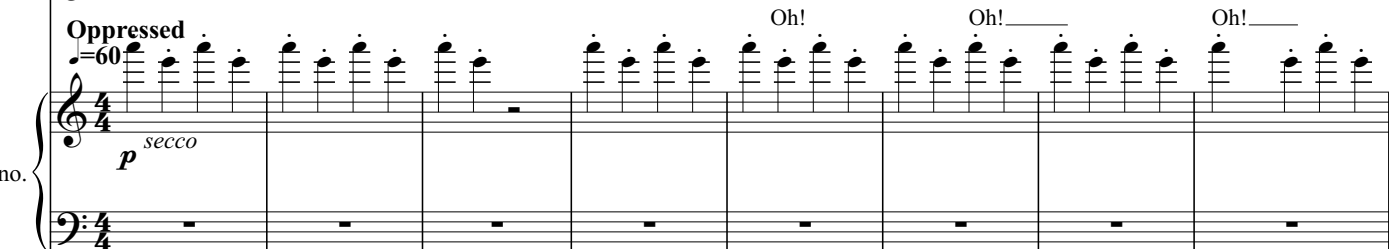
Oppressed
1 $\text{♩} = 60$

groan/sigh, out of rhythm,
during piano rest

mf

S. 

Oppressed
 $\text{♩} = 60$
p secco


Pno. 

Oh! Oh! Oh!

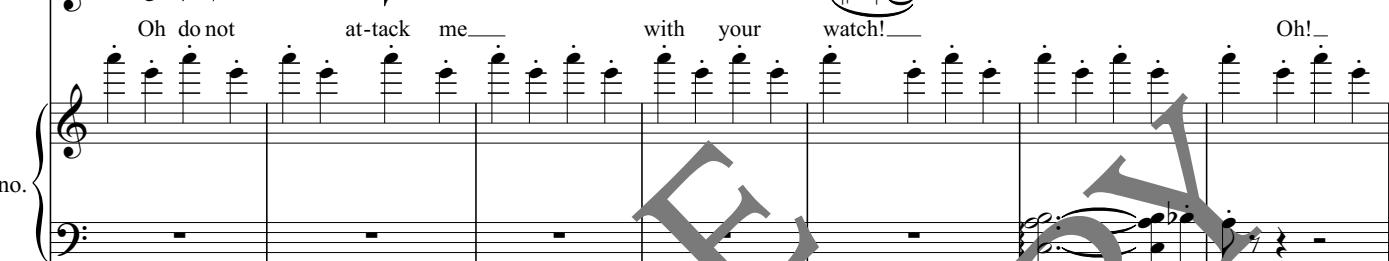
9

loud "t" and "k" on the rests

p *f* *mf* slidey "w" like cartoon trumpet


S. 

Oh do not at-tack me with your watch! Oh!

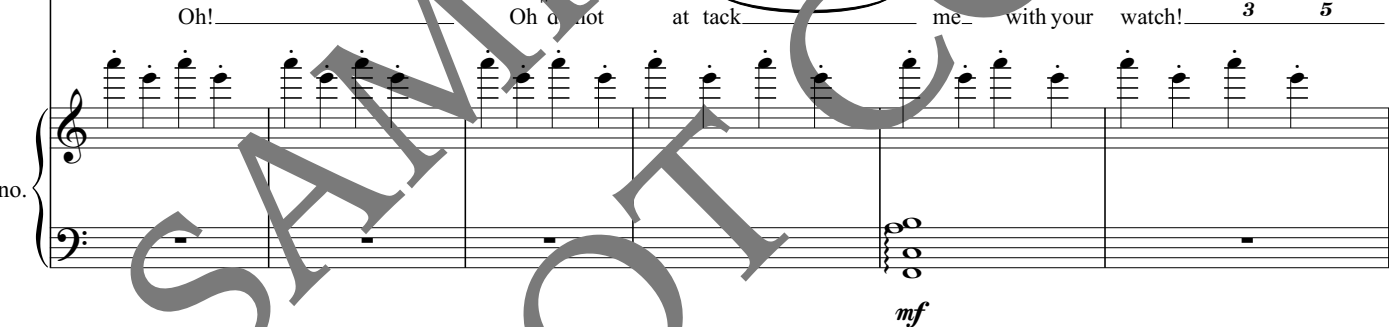
Pno. 

16

whiny Orientalist voice

S. 


Oh! Oh do not at tack me with your watch! 3 5

Pno. 

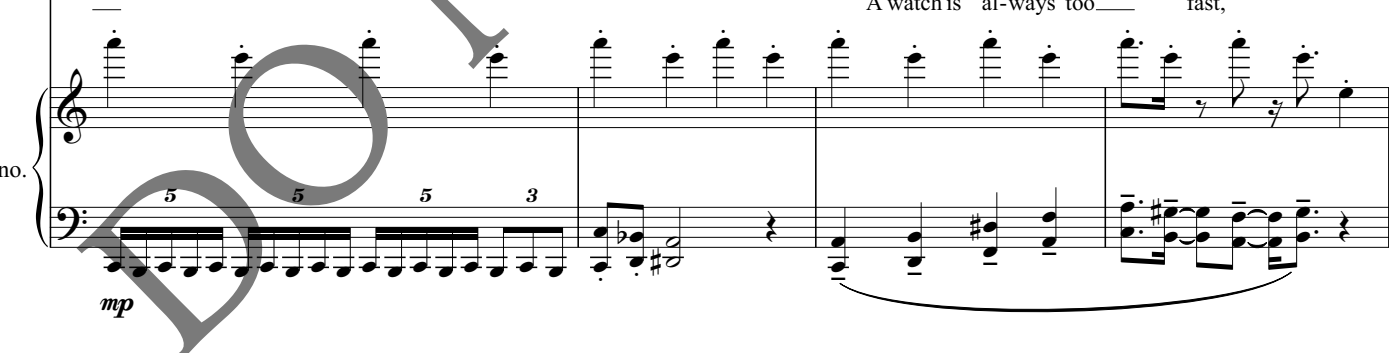
mf

22

mp

S. 

A watch is al-ways too fast,

Pno. 

mp

26 *mp*

S. a watch is al-ways too fast or too slow, A watch is Ah...

Pno. *mp*

31 *f* rit. A Tempo *mp*

S. too fast too slow A watch is al-ways too fast,

Pno. *mp*

36

S. a watch is al-ways too fast or too slow, I

Pno.

Bubbling Energy

♩.=120

41

S. *mf*
can-not be dic-ta-ted to by a watch, watch,

Pno. *mf*

48

S. *subp* *mf*
watch, watch,

Pno. *subp* *mf*

54

S. *f* *f*
watch, watch, watch,

Pno. *f* *mf*

61

S. *ff*
watch, watch,

Pno. *ff*

67

S. *f* *rit.* $\text{♩} = 90$

watch, Can- be

Pno. *f* *rit.* $\text{♩} = 90$

72

S. *ppp*

dic-ta-ted to by a watch.

Pno. *ppp*