

ARTHUR BREUR
**AMBER THE
AMBITIOUS
SPIDER**

A NARRATED MUSICAL TALE

INSTRUMENTATION

Narrator	Antique Car Horn
Violin 1	Cymbal*
Violin 2	Tambourine*
Viola	Timpani*
Cello	Harp*
Contrabass	*optional

PROGRAM NOTES

A narrated musical tale, set in 1910, about a spider who decides she's going to catch a car!

Illustrations available to be included in the performance.

...

PERFORMANCE TIME: 12:45



Amber the Ambitious Spider

by Arthur Breur
(BMI)

♩ = 72

2 3 4 5 6 7

Percussion

Timpani
G, C, E, G*

Harp

Viola Solo
(squeaky, in surprise)

Narrator
This is a story about
a very ambitious...
...spider!

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello
c m i o a c m i o

Contrabass
p

8 9 10

Perc.

Timpani

Harp

Vla. Solo

Narrator
Now, you may be thinking: "Spiders are SCARY",
or "Spiders are ICKY!", or even "Spiders are
DANGEROUS!" And that's because, when many
PEOPLE think of spiders, they imagine THIS:

Violin I
ff

Violin II
f

Viola
f

Violoncello
arco
p

Contrabass
arco
p

11 **VERY slowly and creepily**

Perc.

Timp.

Hrp. *p* pluck
randomly downward

Vla. Solo

Nar.

Vln. I *p*
soft col lengo, randomly downward,
on 2 strings at a time
scratchy tremolo *fp* arco

Vln. II *p*
soft col lengo, randomly downward,
on 2 strings at a time
scratchy tremolo *fp* arco

Vla. *p*
scratchy tremolo *fp* arco

Vc. *p*
scratchy tremolo *ppp* arco

Cb. *p*
scratchy tremolo *ppp* arco

12 13 = 68 14 15 16 17 18 19 *rit.*

Perc.

Timp.

Hrp. *pp* *mf*

Vla. Solo

Nar. **However: when SPIDERS think of spiders, THEY imagine THIS:**

Vln. I *f*

Vln. II *p*

Vla. *p* *f*

Vc. *p* *f*

Cb. *p* *f*

Amber the Ambitious Spider

A ♩ = 120

20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36

Perc.

Timp.
*A, D, E, G**

Hrp.

Vla. Solo
f

Nar.
Amber was a very special spider who lived many, many years ago. **She lived before freeways, before crosswalks, even before stop signs!**

Vln. I
f

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.
p

Cb.
p

37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44

Perc.

Timp.

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.
pizz.
p

Vc.
p

Cb.
p

45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54

Perc.

Timp.

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Amber lived at a crossroads where two lanes intersected in the countryside.

B

55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63

Perc.

Timp.

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

...the MOST beautiful, MOST delicate tracery of webs, in a lovely, perfect spiral.

**If you were walking down one of these lanes,
you might never see her... though you might
see her excellent handiwork:**

Amber the Ambitious Spider

64 65 66 67 68 **rit.** 69 70 71 72

Perc.

Timp.

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

C 73 **slower** 74 75 76 77 78 79 80

Perc.

Timp.

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

81 82 83 84 85 86 87 *rit.* 88

Perc. Timp. Hrp. Vla. Solo Nar. Vln. I Vln. II Vla. Vc. Cb.

Something interesting. Something new. Something BIG.

p *f* *ff* *p* *mf* *f* *ff* *p* *p* *p* *p* *p* *arco* *f*

89

Perc. Timp. Hrp. Vla. Solo Nar. Vln. I Vln. II Vla. Vc. Cb.

**And then, early one morning, something interesting...
something new... and most importantly, something BIG...
drove slowly down one of the country lanes and right past Amber's web.**

pp *pp* *pp* *pp*

Amber the Ambitious Spider

D

90 $\text{♩} = 96$ 91 Car Horn 92 93 94 95 96 97

Perc.

Timp.

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla. *arco*

Vc. *arco*

Cb. *arco*

pp *mf* *ppp* *ff* *ppp*

98 $\text{♩} = 160$ 99 100 101

Perc.

Timp.

Hrp.

Vla. Solo *f*

Nar.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

pp *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp*

“What was THAT?!”
Amber shouted to her friends,
delighted, as the new thing
rolled into the distance.

“It was a monster!”
shouted one friend.
“It was a nightmare!”
shouted another.

“No,” stated Amber,
matter of factly.
“It was a great... big... BUG!”

102 $\text{♩} = 140$ 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111

Perc.

Timp.

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar.

Vln. I *(soloist)* *f*

Vln. II *p*

Vla. *p*

Vc. *p* *soloist* *f* *(all) pizz.* *f*

Cb. *p*

E deliberate and thoughtful (98)

112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120

Perc.

Timp.

Hrp. *p*

Vla. Solo

Nar.

Vln. I *pizz.*

Vln. II *p pizz.*

Vla. *p pizz.*

Vc. *p pizz.*

Cb. *pp*

**That night, as she rebuilt her web at the side of the lane,
Amber's head was filled with amazing new pictures.**

Amber the Ambitious Spider

121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128

Perc.

Timp.

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar. **A giant new bug with spinning round legs and bright glassy eyes! It honked like a goose and roared like a bear. What an amazing new thing!**

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

p

pizz.

p

p (*pizz.*)

p arco

p

129

Perc.

Timp.

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar. **And then, the very next morning, at the very same time, the giant bug rolled past her web a again!**

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

pp

F 130 $\text{♩} = 96$ Car Horn 131 132 133 134 135 136 137

Perc.

Timp.

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

pp *mf* *ppp*

arco *ppp* *ff* *ppp*

pp *ff* *ppp*

138

Perc.

Timp.

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar. **And suddenly, Amber had an idea!**
"I'm going to CATCH that bug!" she ambitiously declared!

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Amber the Ambitious Spider

♩ = 120

139 140 141 142 143 144 145 146

Perc.

Timp.

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

147

Perc.

Timp.

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155 156 157 158

Perc. Timp. Hrp. Vla. Solo Nar. Vln. I Vln. II Vla. Vc. Cb.

(soloist) *f* *arco* *f* *(all) pizz.* *f pizz.* *f pizz.* *f (all) pizz.* *f pizz.*

p *p* *soloist* *f* *p* *f*

159

Perc. Timp. Hrp. Vla. Solo Nar. Vln. I Vln. II Vla. Vc. Cb.

That night, Amber built her first web that stretched across the entire lane, from one side of the intersection to the other.

G $\text{♩} = 68$

160 161 162 163 164 165 166 167 168

Perc.

Timp.

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

169 170 171 172

Perc. *rit.*

Timp.

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar. **It was a VERY good web, she thought to herself, as she packed her lunch for the next day.**

Vln. I

Vln. II

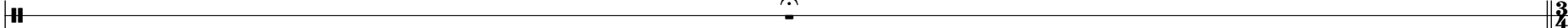
Vla.

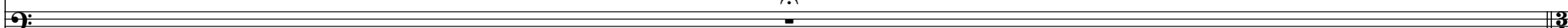
Vc.

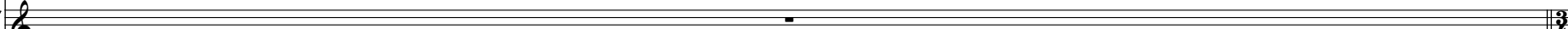
Cb.


p *pp* *p*

173


Perc. 


Timp. 

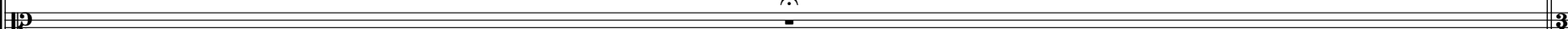
Hrp. 

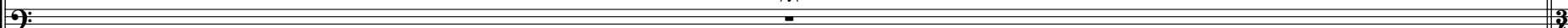
Vla. Solo 

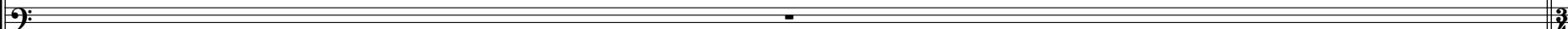
Nar. **Then, at the right time the next morning, she heard the great, big bug approaching, and she waited at the side of the lane, SO excited!**

Vln. I 


Vln. II 


Vla. 


Vc. 

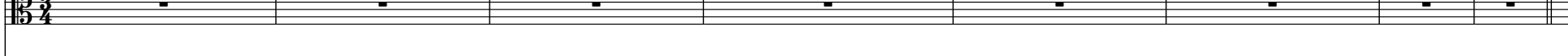
Cb. 


174 **H** $\text{♩} = 96$ **Car Horn** 175 176 177 178 179 180 181

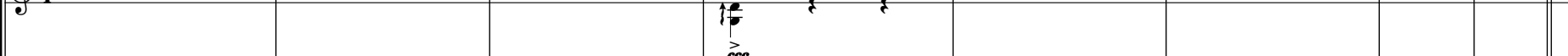
Perc. 


Timp. 


Hrp. 

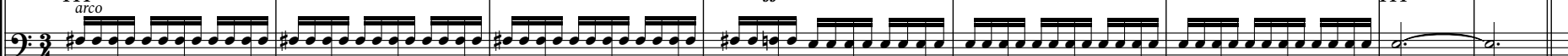
Vla. Solo 


Nar. 

Vln. I 

Vln. II 

Vla. 

Vc. 

Cb. 

pp *mf* *ppp* *fff* *ppp* *pp* *arco* *ppp* *arco* *ff* *ppp* *pp* *arco* *ff* *ppp*

182

Perc.

Timp.

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

The giant bug had gone right through her web without even seeming to notice it.

"I told you so!" said one friend.

"I told you so, too!" said another.

183 **♩ = 140** 184 185 186 *rit.*

Perc.

Timp.

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

(soloist)

187 188

Perc.

Timp.

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

But Amber just felt MORE determined. She went right back to work the next night, making the next web even bigger. And again the next night, and the n

I

189 $\text{♩} = 90$ 190 191 192 193 194 195 196 197

Perc.

Timp.

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

f

pizz.

f

pizz.

f

pizz.

p

pizz.

f

arco

p

arco

pizz.

p

arco

pizz.

p

198 199 200 201

Perc.

Timp.

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar. **She never... gave... up!**

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

202 203 204 205 206 207 208 209

Perc. **J**

Timp.

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

Car Horn

♩ = 76

210 **K** 211 212 213 214 215 216 217

Perc.

Timp.

Hrp.

Vla. Solo *pizz.*
f

Nar. **One morning, after she had been up all night building her biggest web ever...** **Amber fell fast asleep, completely exhausted.** **And while Amber slept, something NEW happened.**

Vln. I *pizz.*

Vln. II *p pizz.*

Vla. *p* *pizz.*

Vc. *pizz.*

Cb. *pizz.*



218 **L** ♩ = 114 219 220 221 222 223 224 225

Perc.

Timp.

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar. **That morning, a PERSON was strolling down one of the little country lanes.**

Vln. I *arco*

Vln. II *p arco*

Vla. *p arco*

Vc. *p arco*

Cb. *p arco*

p

226 227 228 229 230 231 232 233

Perc.

Timp.

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar. **They walked closer and closer to Amber's web, not seeing it at all in the dim morning light...**

Vln. I

Vln. II *arco*

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

p

f

f

f

f

arco (soloist)

mf

234 **M** 235 236 237 238 239 240 241

Perc.

Timp.

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar. **...until—just as the person thought they heard a car approaching--**

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

p

(all)

N $\text{♩} = 110$ $\text{♩} = 150$ (tempo di tarantella)

251 252 253 254 255 256 257 258 259 260

Perc. **Cymbal** *f*

Timp. *mf* *p*

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar. **ICK! ARGH! They jumped up and down and waved their arms trying to get the spider web off!**
soft col lengo tapping, sliding pitch randomly downward, on 2 strings at a time

Vln. I *ff* *p* *soft col lengo tapping, sliding pitch randomly downward, on 2 strings at a time* *fp* *scratchy tremolo*

Vln. II *arco* *f* *f* *p* *scratchy tremolo* *fp*

Vla. *arco* *f* *f* *p* *fp*

Vc. *arco* *p* *pizz.* *p* *f*

Cb. *arco* *p* *pizz.* *p* *f*

261 262 263 264 265 266 267 268 269 270 271 272

Perc. **Tambourine** *p*

Timp. *mf*

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar.

Vln. I *pp* *f* *p* *f* *f*

Vln. II *pp* *f* *p* *f* *f*

Vla. *fp* *f* *p* *f* *f*

Vc. *f*

Cb. *f*

273 274 275 276 277 278 279 280

Perc. *f*

Timp.

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar.

Vln. I *ff* *f* *ff*

Vln. II *ff* *f* *ff*

Vla. *ff* *f* *ff*

Vc.

Cb.

281 282 283 284 285 286 287 288

Perc. *f* *p* *ff* *p* *f*

Timp. *mf* *f*

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar.

Vln. I *v* *v* *v* *v* *v* *v* *v* *v*

Vln. II *v* *v* *v* *v* *v* *v* *v* *v*

Vla. *v* *v* *v* *v* *v* *v* *v* *v*

Vc. *b* *b* *b* *b* *b* *b* *b* *b*

Cb. (*pizz.*)

O

I. 288

P

289 2. 290 291 292 293 294 295 296 297

Perc. *ff*

Timp.

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar. **But they only managed to get more and more of the wide, sticky web on themselves! UGH!** **And they definitely heard a car coming! So they jumped and danced themselves over to the corner of the crossroads,**

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla. *p*

Vc. *arco* *p*

Cb. *p*

298 299 300 301 302 303 304 305

Perc.

Timp. *pp* *mf*

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar. **...where they continued to flail their arms and jump around.**

Vln. I *pp* *ff*

Vln. II *pp* *ff*

Vla. *pp* *ff*

Vc. *ff*

Cb. *ff*

306 307 308 309 310 311 312 313

Perc. *f*

Timp. *f*

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar.

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla. *p*

Vc. *p*

Cb. *ff*

314 **Q** 315 316 317 318 319 320 321

Perc.

Timp. *p*

Hrp. *pp*

Vla. Solo

Nar.

Vln. I *pizz.*

Vln. II *pp pizz.*

Vla. *pp pizz.*

Vc. *pp*

Cb. *p*

Now that day, not just one, but TWO cars were slowly driving down the bumpy lanes...

322 323 324 325 326 327 328 329

Perc.

Timp.

Hrp. *p*

Vla. Solo

Nar. **...both coming toward the place that the two roads crossed.**

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Cb.

330 331 332 333 334 335 336 337

Perc.

Timp. *p*

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar. **And what did those drivers see? Well, they were both AMAZED to see a PERSON,**

Vln. I

Vln. II *pp* *arco*

Vla. *pp*

Vc. *p*

Cb. *p*

338 339 340 341 342 343 344 345

Perc. *f*

Timp.

Hrp. *pp* *ff*

Vla. Solo

Nar. **...crazily waving their arms and dancing around at the corner of the crossroads.**

Vln. I *pp* *arco* *ff*

Vln. II *pp* *ff*

Vla. *p* *pp*

Vc.

Cb.

R

346 347 348 349 350 351 352 353

Perc. *f* *p* *f*

Timp. *f* *p* *f*

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar.

Vln. I *ff* *f*

Vln. II *ff* *f*

Vla. *ff* *f*

Vc. *f*

Cb. *f*

354 355 356 357 358 359 360 361

Perc.

Timp.
p *mf*

Hrp.
pp *f*

Vla. Solo

Nar. **...and because both drivers were looking at the PERSON, ...and NOT at where they were going...**

Vln. I
pizz. *ff*

Vln. II
pp pizz. *ff*

Vla.
pp pizz. *ff*

Vc.
p *ff*

Cb.
p *ff*

S 362

To Cymbal
(play random double stops with one string open and one string at a random note of your choosing)

363

Perc.

Timp.

Hrp.

Vla. Solo

Nar. **The two cars ran right into each other in the intersection...**

Vln. I


Vln. II

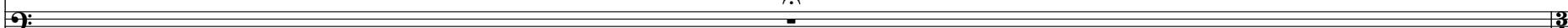
Vla.

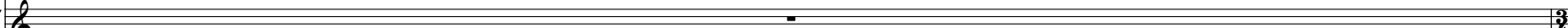
Vc.


Cb.


364

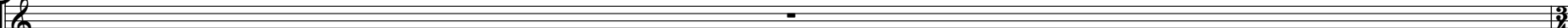
Perc. 

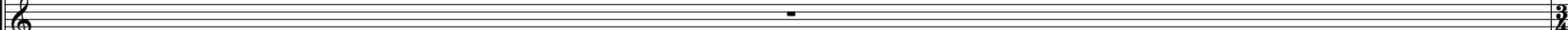
Timp. 


Hrp. 

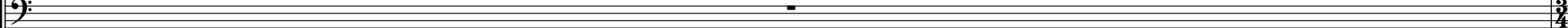
Vla. Solo 


Nar. 

Vln. I 

Vln. II 

Vla. 

Vc. 

Cb. 

**...right at the spot where Amber's web HAD BEEN.
Everyone was ok, and nobody got hurt. They hadn't been going very fast.
But they made a TERRIBLE noise as they crunched into each other,
and the noise woke up Amber... ..who was AMAZED at what she saw!**

Not only had she caught ONE great big bug... she... had caught TWO!

365 $\text{♩} = 144$ 366 367 368 369 *rit.* 371 372

Perc. 

Timp. 

Hrp. 

Vla. Solo 

Nar. 

Vln. I 


Vln. II 

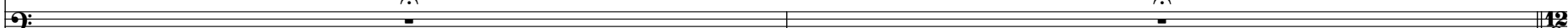
Vla. 

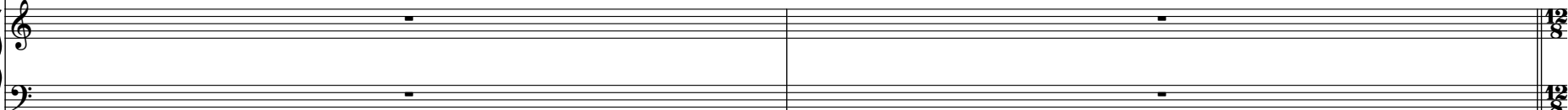
Vc. 

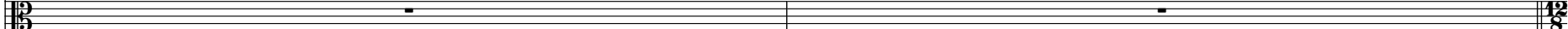
Cb. 

373 374

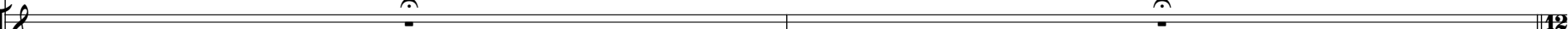
Perc.  12/8

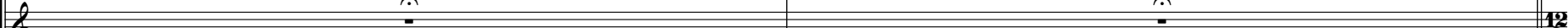
Timp.  12/8

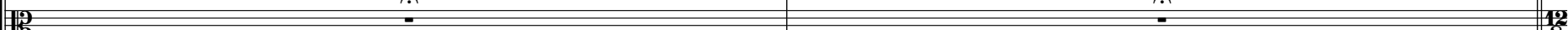
Hrp.  12/8

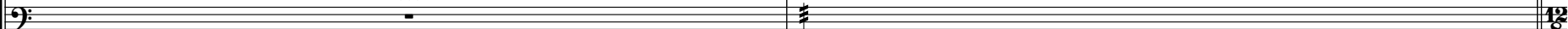
Vla. Solo  12/8

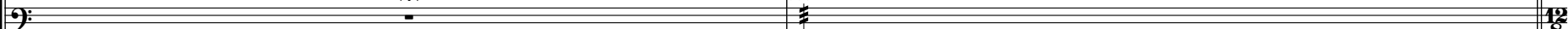
Nar. **Her friends stared in wonder, but they had to admit:
"Amber, you actually did it! What could you ever do that would be
more amazing than catching these big rolling bugs?"** **And then, something interesting...
something new... and most importantly,
something BIG... flew by overhead!** 12/8

Vln. I  12/8

Vln. II  12/8

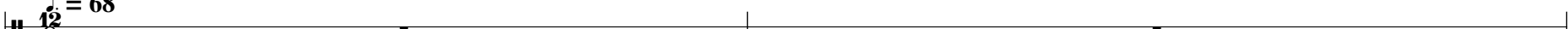
Vla.  12/8


Vc.  12/8

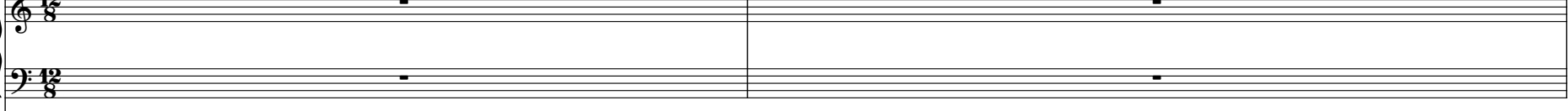
Cb.  12/8

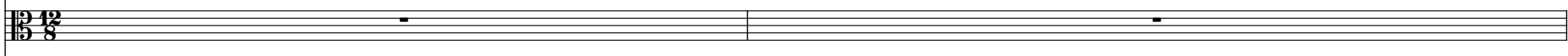
pp


T 375 376


Perc.  = 68


Timp.  *p*


Hrp. 


Vla. Solo 


Nar. 

Vln. I  *p*

Vln. II  *p*

Vla.  *p*

Vc.  *p*

Cb.  *p*

