

American Folk Songs Book 1

ANDY VORES

(1991)

Sweet Betsy from Pike

$\text{♩} = 63c.$ *vigorous*

The piano introduction is in 3/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It features a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth and sixteenth notes. The right hand plays a melodic line with slurs and accents, while the left hand provides a steady bass line. The dynamic marking is *ff* (fortissimo).

The first system of the song includes the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with the lyrics "Did ev - er you hear of Sweet Bet - sy from Pike, who". The piano accompaniment continues with a similar rhythmic pattern, marked *mf* (mezzo-forte). The system concludes with a *p sub.* (piano subito) marking.

The second system of the song includes the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line continues with the lyrics "crossed the big moun - tains with her lov - er, Ike, with two yoke of". The piano accompaniment features a melodic line with slurs and accents, marked *mf*. The system concludes with a *mf* marking.

The third system of the song includes the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line concludes with the lyrics "cat - tle, a large yel - low dog, a tall Shang - hai roo - ster, and". The piano accompaniment features a melodic line with slurs and accents, marked *mf*. The system concludes with a *mf* marking.

one spot - ted hog.

f
They soon reached the des - ert, where Bet - sy gave out, and

down in the sand she lay rol - ling a - bout; while—

Ike, in great tears,— looked on in sur --prise, say - ing "Bet-sy, get

up; you'll get sand in your eyes."

ff

Sva---

ff

The Shang-hai run off and the cat-tle all

ff

died; the last piece of ba-con that mor-ning was fried. Poor—

Sva---

Ike got dis-cou-raged, and Bet-sy got mad; the—

mf

Sva---

dog wagged his tail and looked won - der - ful sad.

mp *mf* *mf* *ff*

One mor - ning they climbed up a ve - ry high hill, and with

mp

won - der looked down in - to old Pla - cer - ville; Ike— shou - ted and said, as he

f

cast his eyes down, "Sweet— Bet - sy, my dar - ling, we've got to Hang - town!" Oh it's

mp *ff* *mp*

good - bye, Pike Coun - ty, fare - well for a while; we'll come back a -

f

This system contains the first two lines of music. The vocal line is in the upper staff, and the piano accompaniment is in the lower two staves. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 7/8. The lyrics are "good - bye, Pike Coun - ty, fare - well for a while; we'll come back a -". A dynamic marking of *f* (forte) is placed above the vocal line. The piano accompaniment features a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand, with a crescendo leading to a *f* dynamic marking.

gain when we've panned out our pile.

mp *f* *mp* *p*

This system contains the third and fourth lines of music. The vocal line continues with the lyrics "gain when we've panned out our pile." The piano accompaniment continues with various dynamics: *mp* (mezzo-piano), *f* (forte), *mp* (mezzo-piano), and *p* (piano). The time signature changes from 7/8 to 3/4 and back to 7/8. The piano accompaniment features a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand, with a crescendo leading to a *f* dynamic marking.

This system contains the fifth and sixth lines of music, which are purely instrumental piano accompaniment. The right hand features a melodic line with slurs, and the left hand provides a bass line. The time signature changes from 7/8 to 3/4 and back to 7/8. The piano accompaniment features a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.