

Heuristic Knowledge
2 Soprano voices and 2 Pianos

Tarot Conway

MPhil

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Heuristic Knowledge

Duration: 10 mins

Instrumentation

2 Pianos

2 Soprano voices

Lyrics

He likes to walk around in circles on the grass, his hands tied behind his back, pondering the circumference his movement creates.

And as he does so, he notices that at the centre of this hypothetical circle, there lies a worm coiled up like an elaborate curlicue, around a small golden stone.

Struck by the peculiarity of the occurrence, he continues walking in a circle for fear that a pause would break the circle and, in some mysterious and elliptical way, the disposition of both the snail and the golden stone.

This thought comes to him, at first, only intuitively and, deep down at a practical level, he realises that this is actually very foolish of him; for how could his failure to shape a circle around the worm affect the worm and, in turn, the golden stone?

But as he continues walking, he realises that this is not quite as foolish as he at first imagined and that, in spite of the self-evident reservations of common sense, at a more abstracted and esoteric level, at an imperceptible level, there is some reason in his structured perambulations, some fragment of logic to his imprecise steps.

It is for this reason that, if you are so inclined, you will still find him treading out the circle on the grass.

Robert Stewart

Heuristic Knowledge

Tarot Conway

♩ = 152

Soprano 1

Soprano 2

Piano 1

Piano 2

S 1

S 2

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

He _____ likes _____ to

He _____ likes

S 1
walk _____

S 2
to walk _____

Pno. 1
f *mf*

Pno. 2
f *mf*

S 1
mf 20 *f*
a - round _____ in cir - cles on _____ the grass _____

S 2
mf *f*
a - round _____ in cir cles on _____ the grass

Pno. 1
mp

Pno. 2
mp

30 *f*

S 1 his hands _____ tied_

S 2 his hands _____

Pno. 1 *f*

Pno. 2 *f*

40

S 1 _____ be - hind _____ his back _____ pon - der -

S 2 _____ tied _____ be - hind his back

Pno. 1 40

Pno. 2 40

S 1
ring the cir - cum - fe - rence - his move - - - - ment cre - - - -

S 2
pon - de - ring the cir - cum - fe - rence - his move - - - - ment cre -

Pno. 1
mp

Pno. 2
mp

S 1
ates

S 2
ates

Pno. 1
f 50 *mf*

Pno. 2
f 50 *mf*

S 1 *mf* And — as he does

S 2 *mf* and as he does

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

60

S 1 — so he — no - ti - ces — that at — the — cen -

S 2 — so he no - - - ti - ces — that at — the

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

S 1
tre_____ of this_____ hy - - - po - the - ti - cal_____ cir - - - cle there

S 2
cen - tre_____ of this hy - - - - po - the - ti - cal_____ cir - cle

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

70

S 1
_____ lies_____ a worm coil - ed up like_____

S 2
there lies a worm coil - ed up like_____

Pno. 1

70

Pno. 2

S 1 *mp*
 an e - - - la - bo - rate cur - - - li - cue a - round

S 2 *mp*
 an e - - - la - bo - rate cur - - - li - cue a - round a

Pno. 1 *mp*

Pno. 2 *mp*

80 S 1 *ff*
 a small gol - - - - - den stone

S 2 *ff*
 small gol - - - - - den stone

Pno. 1 *mf* *f*

Pno. 2 *mf* *f*

S 1

S 2

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

mf

mp

mf

mp

90

S 1

S 2

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

p

Struck by pe-cu - li - a - ri - ty o - ccu - rence

p

the of the he con -

p

p

mp 100

S 1 walk - ing in a cir cle for fear that a pause and

S 2 tin - ues for fear would break the cir - cle in

Pno. 1

Pno. 2 *mp*

S 1 mys - te - ri - ous e - lli - p - ti - cal way dis - po - si - tion the snail

S 2 some and the of both and

Pno. 1 *mf*

Pno. 2 *mf*

110

S 1
gol - den stone

S 2
the gol - den stone

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

S 1

S 2

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

S 1

S 2

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

S 1

S 2

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

S 1 *f* comes to at first in - tu -

S 2 *f* This thought him on - ly

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

130

S 1 i - - - tive - ly deep down prac - ti -

S 2 and at a

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

S 1
cal - - - - - vel - - - - - re - - - a - li - ses -

S 2
he - - - - -

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

140

S 1
- that this is - - - - - ve - ry fool - ish of him

S 2
ac - - - - - tua - lly - - - - - ve - ry

Pno. 1

140

Pno. 2

S 1

could his to shape

S 2

for how fail - - i - ure a cir - cle_

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

Detailed description: This system contains the first four measures of the piece. S 1 has a sparse vocal line with lyrics 'could his to shape'. S 2 has a more active vocal line with lyrics 'for how fail - - i - ure a cir - cle_'. Pno. 1 features a complex texture with many accidentals and slurs. Pno. 2 has a rhythmic accompaniment with eighth and sixteenth notes.

150

S 1

a - round_ the_ worm_ the worm_

S 2

a - - - - - ffect_

Pno. 1

150

Pno. 2

150

Detailed description: This system contains measures 150-154. S 1 has lyrics 'a - round_ the_ worm_ the worm_'. S 2 has lyrics 'a - - - - - ffect_'. Pno. 1 and Pno. 2 continue their respective parts, with measure 150 marked at the beginning of each part.

S 1 *ff* and in turn gol -

S 2 and in the gol - - - den

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

S 1 *ff* den stone

S 2 *ff* stone

Pno. 1

Pno. 2 *ff*

160

S 1

S 2

Pno. 1

ff

Pno. 2

160

S 1

S 2

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

mf

mp

170 *mp*

S 1 he — walk - - - ing — re - a -

S 2 *mp* But as con - - - tin - ues he —

Pno. 1 *p*

Pno. 2 *f* *mf* *mp*

S 1 li - ses is not fool - - - - ish —

S 2 that this — quite as — as he —

Pno. 1

Pno. 2 *p*

180

S 1
at first — and that of the — re - ser -

S 2
— im a gined — in spite — self e - vi - dent

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

180

S 1
va - tions com - - mon sense — more — and —

S 2
of — at a — ab - strac - ted —

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

S 1 *mf* 190 *f*
 e - so - te - - ric at an le - - - vel

S 2 *mf* *f*
 le - - - vel im - per - cep - - ti - ble

Pno. 1 *mf*

Pno. 2 *mf*

S 1 *ff*
 is rea - son struc - - tur - ed

S 2
 there some in his per - am - bu -

Pno. 1 *f*

Pno. 2 *f*

200

S 1

some of to

S 2

la - ti - - - ons frag - ment lo - gic

Pno. 1

ff

200

Pno. 2

ff

200

S 1

im - pre - cise

S 2

his steps

Pno. 1

fff

Pno. 2

fff

S 1

S 2

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

S 1

S 2

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

S 1

S 2

Pno. 1

mf

Pno. 2

mf

220

S 1

mf

It _____ is for _____ this

S 2

mf

It _____ is for _____ this

Pno. 1

mp

Pno. 2

220

mp

mp

S 1
rea - - - son _____ that if _____ you are _____ so

mp

S 2
rea - - - son _____ that if _____ you are _____ so

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

230

S 1
in - - - clined _____ you _____ will still _____ find

S 2
in - - - clined _____ you _____ will still _____ find

Pno. 1

230

Pno. 2

S 1
him _____ trea - ding out

S 2
him _____ trea - ding out

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

S 1
the _____ cir - cle on the _____ grass _____

S 2
the _____ cir - cle on the _____ grass _____

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

240

S 1

S 2

Pno. 1

Pno. 2

The image shows a musical score for two vocalists (S 1 and S 2) and two pianos (Pno. 1 and Pno. 2). The vocal staves (S 1 and S 2) are empty, indicating that the vocalists are silent for this section. The piano parts (Pno. 1 and Pno. 2) are active, featuring complex rhythmic patterns and dynamics. The Pno. 1 part includes a dynamic marking of *p* (piano) and a long horizontal line indicating a sustained note or chord. The Pno. 2 part also includes a dynamic marking of *p* and features a similar long horizontal line. The score is written in a standard musical notation style with treble and bass clefs.