

Peter Dyson  
1971



## \* Crooked Man \*

\*English Nursery Rhyme published 1842  
Poem by Ian Serrailler  
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# Crooked Man

Words by Ian Serraillier (1912 -1994)  
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**Leggiero** ( $\text{♩} = 140$ )

*mf*

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

6

S.

A.

T.

B.

12

S.

A.

T.

B.

There was a crooked  
Crooked Man Crooked Man Crooked  
man, was once a little lad, He had-n't an - y mo - ther, he had-n't a - ny  
Ma - n Croo - ked Ma - n Croo - ked Mo - ther Croo - ked  
Ma - n Croo - ked Ma - n Croo - ked Mo - ther Croo - ked  
Ma - n Croo - ked Ma - n Croo - ked Mo - ther Croo - ked  
dad, He had-n't a - ny home, or a fam - ly tree, Where did he  
Da - d Croo - ked Ma - n Croo - ked Ma - n Croo - ked  
Da - d Croo - ked Ma - n Croo - ked Ma - n Croo - ked  
Da - d Croo - ked Ma - n Croo - ked Ma - n Croo - ked

18

S. *p* come from?— Don't ask me. This li-tle croo-ked lad

A. *p* Ma - n Don't ask me. This li-tle croo-ked lad

T. *p* Ma - n Don't ask me. This li-tle croo-ked lad

B. *p* Ma - n Don't ask me. This li-tle croo-ked croo-ked la - ad

23

S. grew up to be a man. ( One leg stopp'd where the o - ther one

A. grew up to be a man. ( One leg stopp'd where the o - ther one

T. 8 grew up to be a man. ( One leg stopp'd where the o - ther one

B. grew up to be a croo-ked ma - an. ( One leg, one leg stopp'd where the o -

28

S. be - gan.) He ho-bbled with a stick for a whole croo-ked

A. be - gan.) He ho-bbled with a stick for a whole croo-ked

T. 8 be - gan.) He ho-bbled with a stick for a whole croo-ked

B. -ther be - gan.) He ho-bbled with a croo-ked sti - ick for a whole croo-ked,

4

33

S. mile, and found a croo-ked six - pence u - pon a croo-ked stile.

A. mile, and found a croo-ked six - pence u - pon a croo-ked stile.

T. mile, and found a croo-ked six - pence u - pon a croo-ked stile.

B. croo-ked mile, and he found a croo-ked six - pence u - pon a croo-ked stile.

38

*mf*

S. He ran and then a - tin - kle went the bell.

A. He ran and then a - tin - kle went the bell.

T. *mf*  
He ran to a shop and a - tin - kle went the bell, "Good

B.

43

33

S. "Good mor - ning Mis - ses."

A. "Good mor - ning Mis - ses." "I've can - dy and a bar - row

T. *b*  
mor - ning to you Mis - ses and what do you sell?"

B. "I've can - dy and a bar - row

49

S. and a black silk hat." "None of those thank you"

A. and a black silk hat." "None of those thank you"

T. and a black silk hat." "I'll buy a crooked

B.

55

S. He bought a crooked cat and it

A. "a crooked cat." He bought a crooked cat and it

T. cat." He bought a crooked cat and it

B. "a crooked cat." He bought a crooked

60

S. caught a crooked mouse, pi-tter pa-tter down the gu-tter of an

A. caught a crooked mouse, pi-tter pa-tter down the gu-tter of an

T. caught a crooked mouse, pi-tter pa-tter down the gu-tter of an

B. cat and it caught a crooked mouse, pi-tter pa-tter down the gu-tter of an

6

64

S. old farm house. "Be friends with me mou-sie, there's no harm

A. old farm house. "Be friends with me mou-sie, there's no harm

T. 8 old farm house. "Be friends with me mou-sie, there's no harm

B. old farm house. "Be friends with me mou-sie, there's no harm

**rit.** (solo) **p** **rit.**

S. meant, for we're all of us crooked h-ere but me, and I'm be - nt."

A. meant, for we're all of us crooked h-ere"

T. 8 meant, for we're all of us crooked h-ere" "mmmmeeeeee - ow"

B. meant, for we're all of us crooked h-ere"

**A tempo f**

S. They jogged a - long to - ge-ther, But they could-nt keep in step. "Right

A. They jogged a - long to - ge-ther, But they could-nt keep in step. "Right

T. 8 They jogged a - long to - ge-ther, But they could-nt keep in step. "Right

B. They jogged a - long to - ge-ther, But they could-nt keep in step. "Right

This musical score consists of four staves, each representing a different voice: Soprano (S.), Alto (A.), Tenor (T.), and Bass (B.). The music is in common time, with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The vocal parts are separated by vertical bar lines. The lyrics are written below the notes. Dynamic markings include 'rit.', 'p' (piano), 'f' (forte), and 'gliss.' (glissando). Measure 6 starts at measure 64. The lyrics in measure 64 are 'old farm house. "Be friends with me mou-sie, there's no harm'. The lyrics in measure 69 are 'meant, for we're all of us crooked h-ere but me, and I'm be - nt.' The lyrics in measure 74 are 'They jogged a - long to - ge-ther, But they could-nt keep in step. "Right'.

79

S. turn!" said the croo - ked ma - an,\_\_\_\_ and they turned right to the left. But

A. turn!" said the croo - ked man, and they turned right to the left. But

T. turn!" said the croo - ked ma - an,\_\_\_\_ and they turned right to the left. But

B. turn!" said the croo - ked man, and they turned right to the left. But

rit.

S. he brought them at last to a li - tle croo - ked

A. he brought them at last to a li - ttle croo - ked

T. he brought them at last to a li - ttle croo - ked

B. he brought them at last to a li - ttle croo - ked

86 rit.

S. house, and he lived there for - e - ver with the pu - ssy and the

A. house,\_\_\_\_ and he lived there for - e - ver with the pu - ssy and the

T. house,\_\_\_\_ and he lived there for - e - ver with the pu - ssy and the

B. house,\_\_\_\_ and he lived there for - e - ver with the pu - ssy and the

Speaker: There was a croo-ked man and he walked a croo-ked mile,  
And he found a croo-ked sixpence upon a croo-ked stile,  
He bought a croo-ked cat and it caught a croo-ked mouse,  
And they all lived together in a little croo-ked house.

90

S. A. T. B.

\* a soft hissing sound