

MARTIN'S LIE

OPERA DA CHIESA

in one act

Gian Carlo Menotti

(The action takes place in the fourteenth century in the kitchen of an old medieval convent converted into an orphanage. It is run by Father Cornelius, a middle-aged monk, and Naninga, his motherly assistant. It is early night.)

(L'azione si svolge nel quattordicesimo secolo nella cucina di un vecchio convento medievale convertito in orfanotrofio. Il convento è gestito da Padre Cornelius, un monaco di mezza età, e Naninga, una materna assistente. Sono le prime ore della notte.)

Lento

The first system of music is a piano accompaniment in 4/4 time, marked **Lento**. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble staff begins with a forte (*f*) dynamic and features a series of chords and melodic lines, including a triplet of eighth notes. The bass staff provides a steady accompaniment with eighth notes and rests. The system concludes with a piano (*p*) dynamic and a triplet of eighth notes.

(As the lights go up Naninga is seen surrounded by the group of orphan boys. She is in the middle of telling a fairy tale. In the background Father Cornelius is tidying up after dinner.)

(Quando le luci si accendono si vede Naninga circondata da un gruppo di orfanelli, ai quali sta raccontando una fiaba. Padre Cornelius sullo sfondo sta rigovernando, dopo cena.)

The second system of music continues the piano accompaniment. It features a first ending bracket circled with a '1' above it. The dynamics range from mezzo-forte (*mf*) to pianissimo (*pp*). The treble staff has a melodic line with slurs and ties, while the bass staff continues with a steady accompaniment. The system ends with a *pp* dynamic.

Andante

Nanina:

②

...so he touched the first door with his gold-en rose, and lo and be-hold, the
 ...*da me a-vrai, giu-rò il Re tut-to ciò che vuoi! Poi tra-spor-ta - to*

N. door flew o - pen, and he found him - self with-in a large room, the
da un gran ven - to si tro - vò d'in - can - to in u - na sa - la più

N. like of which he'd nev-er seen. Sil-ver floor in - laid with pearls.
bel - la di qua-lun-que mai. Tre le por - te e tut - te d'or.

N. Walls of pink cor-al — and ceil-ing of pure to-paz. In the mid-dle of the room stood a
D'a - ga - ta i mu - ri, — sof - fit - to di co - ral - lo. Nel bel mez - zo del - la sa - la vi - de - u - na

N. gold - en ta - ble cov - ered with all sorts of food. Stewed
ta - vo - la im - ban - di - ta con o - gni ben di Dio. Pe - sce

Timothy:
 Pre - cise - ly⁵ what?
E spie - ga - ti dun - que!

④
 N. cock - 'rels, roast - ed mut - ton, stuffed fish and sug - ared plums.
frit - to, qua - glie ar - ro - sto, pol - li al - lo spie - do e le - pri in sal - mi.

T. And noth - ing³ to drink?
E nien - te da be - re?

N. Wine, of course. Both red and white. And
Cer - to, Co - co. Vin bian - co e ros - so. Ma

T. And no bread?
E nien - te pa - ne?