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Die Forelle/The trout

From notation to performance: understanding musical scores

Die Forelle/The Trout

In a clear little brook,
There swam quickly and happily
A vagarious trout
Darting like an arrow.
I stood on the shore
And watched, happy and peaceful,
As the little fish swam
In the clear little brook.

A fisherman with his rod
Stood on the bank
And watched with cold blood
As the little fish turned about.
As long as the clear water,
I thought, is not tainted,
He will not catch the trout
With his fishing line.

But in the end, for the thief,
Time passed too slowly.
He muddied the little brook in spite,
And before I knew it,
He pulled out his fishing rod
And the little fish floundered on the end,
And I, with quickened blood,
Looked at the cheated one.

In einem Bächlein helle,
Da schoß in froher Eil
Die launige Forelle
Vorüber wie ein Pfeil.
Ich stand an dem Gestade
Und sah in süßer Ruh
Des muntern Fisches Bade
Im klaren Bächlein zu.

Ein Fischer mit der Rute
Wohl an dem Ufer stand,
Und sah's mit kaltem Blute,
Wie sich das Fischlein wand.
So lang dem Wasser Helle,
So dacht ich, nicht gebricht,
So fängt er die Forelle
Mit seiner Angel nicht.

Doch plötzlich ward dem Diebe
Die Zeit zu lang. Er macht
Das Bächlein tückisch trübe,
Und eh ich es gedacht,
So zuckte seine Rute,
Das Fischlein zappelt dran,
Und ich mit regem Blute
Sah die Betrogene an.