

Kjos String Orchestra  
Grade 1  
Full Conductor Score  
SO502F

Shirl Jae Atwell

# Little Suite



Neil A. Kjos Music Company • *Publisher*



## The Composer

**Shirl Jae Atwell** earned her Bachelor of Music Education degree from Kansas State Teachers College and a Master of Music Theory/Composition degree at the University of Louisville. She also completed four years of post-graduate work in music composition at the University of South Carolina.

In 1984, Ms. Atwell won the Clifford Shaw Memorial Award for Kentucky Composers; was commissioned to write **Fear Not, Little Flock** for the 175th anniversary of the Little Flock Baptist Church; and saw the New York City debut of her first opera, **Sagegrass**. In 1991, another of her operas, **Esta Hargis**, was premiered at Emporia State University in Kansas, followed shortly by the 1992 debut of **Handelian**, a work for string orchestra premiered by the Jefferson County All-County Middle School Orchestra. The Southern Baptist Seminary Orchestra in Louisville premiered her **Movements Four South**, an orchestral suite, in 1993. That year also saw the placement of six Shirl Jae Atwell scores in the permanent collection of the Paris *Bibliothèque Internationale de Musique Contemporaine* at the invitation of the Contemporary Music International Information Service. Ms. Atwell was named the 1996 winner of the National School Orchestra Association composition contest with her string orchestra piece **Modus à Four**. She is also the 1997 winner of the Texas Orchestra Directors' Association contest with her string orchestra piece entitled **Driften**.

In 2005 and 2006, Ms. Atwell was commissioned to write works for the McEachern High School String Orchestra of Powder Springs, Georgia, and the Oceanfront String Orchestra of Virginia Beach, Virginia. In 2007, she was commissioned to write a full orchestra piece for the 2007 Kentucky All-State Orchestra. With the coming of the bicentennial of Abraham Lincoln's birthday in February 2009, Ms. Atwell was commissioned to write a full orchestra piece for the Jefferson County All-County Orchestra. This work, entitled **Kentucke**, was premiered in November 2008 and reprised by the Louisville Orchestra in February 2009. She has also completed work on her second ballet suite entitled **Evoquer**.

An active composer with many commissions and publications to her credit, Ms. Atwell retired from full-time string orchestra teaching with the Jefferson County Public Schools, Louisville, Kentucky in 2007. She is now spending her time composing, conducting, arranging, presenting, and working with string teachers in the Louisville area and throughout the southeast. Ms. Atwell is an active member of ASCAP.

Ms. Atwell's published music can be purchased at any sheet music retailer. A recording of the **Lucy** ballet music can be purchased from Albany Records ([www.albanyrecords.com](http://www.albanyrecords.com)).

## The Composition

**Little Suite** is a four-movement suite, where each movement can be performed individually, or all four movements can be performed together as a complete suite.

**1. Little Tune:** As students learn the notes of the D major scale, this little tune will help to firmly establish the tonality of D major. The melody is shared among the violins, violas, and cellos, and the transition from one instrumental group to another should be smooth and effortless.

**2. Quiet Time:** This gentle movement is in G major and introduces C natural. Care must be taken to ensure that the fingers are placed correctly to accurately sound the pitch of C natural. Also introduced are a range of dynamics that require explanation and demonstration. The melody is again shared among the violins, violas, and cellos.

**3. Dreams:** A natural minor is explored in this piece as well as eighth notes and their respective slurs. C natural and F natural add the unique flavor to this piece. Along with the various dynamic contrasts, the bass line shares part of the melody with the cellos and has the spotlight in measures 15 and 16.

**4. Joy:** Here's a fun piece in D major featuring running eighth notes for all sections of the orchestra. Dynamic contrasts, eighth note slurs, and a peppy tempo keep everyone on their toes! This fast-paced tune ends with pizzicato on the last three notes. **Joy** is a joy to play!

## Instrumentation List (Set C)

8 – 1 <sup>st</sup> Violin	5 – Viola	5 – String Bass
8 – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Violin	5 – Cello	1 – Full Conductor Score

Additional scores and parts are available. To hear a recording of this piece or any other Kjos publication, go to [www.kjos.com](http://www.kjos.com).

# Little Suite

## 1. Little Tune

Full Conductor Score  
Total performance time - 3:55  
Mvt. I perf. time - 0:40

Shirl Jae Atwell  
(ASCAP)

Moderately (♩=104)

The score is divided into three systems of staves:

- System 1 (Measures 1-5):** Violins 1 & 2, Viola, Cello, and String Bass. All parts start with a *mf* dynamic. Measures 5 and 9 are marked as '(melody)'.
- System 2 (Measures 6-10):** Violins 1 & 2, Viola, Cello, and String Bass. Measure 9 is marked as '(melody)'.
- System 3 (Measures 11-16):** Violins 1 & 2, Viola, Cello, and String Bass. Measures 13 and 15 are marked as '(melody)'. Measures 15 and 16 feature a crescendo leading to a *f* dynamic.

A large 'SAMPLE' watermark is overlaid diagonally across the center of the page.

# 2. Quiet Time

Approx. performance time - 1:00

Shirl Jae Atwell  
(ASCAP)

**Andante** (♩=88)  
(melody)

Violins 1 *p* (melody)

Violins 2 *p* (melody)

Viola *p* (melody)

Cello *p* 2

String Bass *p* 2

Vlins. 1 (melody) 6 L2 7

Vlins. 2 (melody)

Vla. (melody)

Cello (melody)

Str. Bass (melody)

Vlins. 1 (melody) 10 *mf* 11 (melody) 12

Vlins. 2 (melody) *mf*

Vla. (melody) *mf*

Cello (melody) *mf*

Str. Bass (melody) *mf*

13 14 15 16

Vlns. 1 (melody) *f*

Vlns. 2 (melody) *f*

Vla. (melody) *f*

Cello *f*

Str. Bass *f*

17 (melody) 18 19 (melody) 20

Vlns. 1 *mf* (melody) *f*

Vlns. 2 *mf* (melody) *f*

Vla. *mf* (melody) *f*

Cello *mf* *f*

Str. Bass *mf* *f*

21 22 23 (melody) 24

Vlns. 1 *mf* (melody) *p*

Vlns. 2 *mf* (melody) *p*

Vla. *mf* (melody) *p*

Cello *mf* *p*

Str. Bass *mf* *p*

# 3. Dreams

Approx. performance time - 1:00

Shirl Jae Atwell  
(ASCAP)

Moderato (♩=96)

Violins 1  
Violins 2  
Viola  
Cello  
String Bass

Violins  
Vla.  
Cello  
Str. Bass

Violins  
Vla.  
Cello  
Str. Bass

mf (melody) L2  
mf (melody) L2  
mf  
mf  
mf

f L2 (melody) L2 (melody) L2 (melody) mf (melody) mf

mf (melody) mf

Musical score for measures 19-24, featuring Violins (Vlins.), Viola (Vla.), Cello, and String Bass (Str. Bass). The score is in 4/4 time and includes dynamics such as *f* and *mf*. A large diagonal watermark 'SAMPLE' is overlaid on the page.

Measures 19-24. Dynamics: *f*, *mf*. Labels: (melody), L2.

### 4. Joy

Approx. performance time - 1:15

Allegretto (♩=96)

Shirl Jae Atwell  
(ASCAP)

Musical score for measures 1-5 of '4. Joy', featuring Violins (Violins), Viola, Cello, and String Bass. The score is in 4/4 time and includes dynamics such as *mf*. A large diagonal watermark 'SAMPLE' is overlaid on the page.

Measures 1-5. Dynamics: *mf*. Labels: (melody), 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.

6 7 8 9 (melody) 10

1 Vlns. *mf* (melody)

2 Vlns. *mf* (melody)

Vla. *mf* (melody)

Cello *mf* (melody)

Str. Bass *mf* (melody)

11 12 13 (melody) 14 15 (melody)

1 Vlns. (melody)

2 Vlns. (melody)

Vla. (melody)

Cello (melody)

Str. Bass (melody)

16 17 (melody) 18 19 (melody) 20

1 Vlns. (melody)

2 Vlns. (melody)

Vla. (melody)

Cello (melody)

Str. Bass (melody)

1 21 22 23 (melody) 24

Vlns. 1 *f*

Vlns. 2 *f*

Vla. *f*

Cello (melody) *f*

Str. Bass (melody) *f*

1 25 (melody) 26 27 28

Vlns. 1 *mf*

Vlns. 2 (melody) *mf*

Vla. (melody) *mf*

Cello (melody) *mf*

Str. Bass (melody) *mf*

1 29 30 31 32 pizz.

Vlns. 1 pizz.

Vlns. 2 pizz.

Vla. pizz.

Cello pizz.

Str. Bass pizz.

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