

Violins

# The Hare and the Tortoise

(alla Aesop and Saint-Saëns)

A Hare taunted a Tortoise because of the slowness of her pace and boasted of his own great speed. "Then let us have a race," said the Tortoise. "I'll run with you five miles, and the Fox yonder shall be the judge." The Hare agreed and away they went. But in his eagerness to win he started off as fast as he could and soon left the Tortoise far behind. The Hare, tired from his exertions, stopped by the way to take a nap, confident that if the Tortoise went by he could easily overtake her. Meanwhile the resolute Tortoise kept up a slow but steady pace and plodded along. The Hare overslept and awakened to find, when he arrived at the goal, that the Tortoise had reached it just before him.

Moral: *Perseverance and determination compensate for the absence of natural gifts.*  
(from an early translation of the fable)

arranged by Lucas Drew

**Slow (Majestically)**

4 violins soli (upper line)  
(Hare)  $\square$   $\nabla$

tutti violins (lower line)  
*mf*

6 **6**

tutti (unison)  
(Tortoise)  $\nabla$   
*p sempre*

14

19

23 Div. *molto rit.*  
4 soli on cue (Hare)

**FREEZE**

The musical score is written for four violins in 4/4 time. It is divided into five systems. The first system (measures 1-5) features a melody for the Hare on the upper line and a supporting accompaniment for all violins on the lower line. The second system (measures 6-13) shows the Tortoise's entry on the upper line, marked 'tutti (unison)' and 'p sempre'. The third system (measures 14-18) continues the Tortoise's melody. The fourth system (measures 19-22) continues the Tortoise's melody. The fifth system (measures 23-26) features the Hare's return on the upper line, marked '4 soli on cue (Hare)' and 'molto rit.', ending with a 'FREEZE' instruction.