

Child's Play

for wind quintet

by Matthew C. Saunders

(2020, 2023)

Child's Play **for wind quintet** **(2020, 2023)**

Dr. Matthew C. Saunders (born 1976, Austin, Texas, USA) is a Northeast Ohio composer, conductor, trombonist, husband, and father. He finds inspiration from the vastness of space, the waterways and forests, mountains and prairies of America, the motion of atoms, and the mysteries of existence, and from collaboration with other musicians and his students. After a hard day's work, he relaxes with his wonderful wife, who is the love of his life and his teammate in the extreme sport of parenting. Dr. Saunders is a lover of solitude and camaraderie, Cincinnati-style chili and Carolina barbecue, road trips, movies, and random facts. His favorite dinosaur is the Parasaurolophus. He gets excited about music that he would never write or perform, and does what he can to share that with the world. Dr. Saunders is Professor of Music at Lakeland Community College, where he directs the Lakeland Civic Orchestra.

Child's Play was first composed in 2020 for the bass clarinet duo Just This (Asylin Rice and Ivan Ferguson) and adapted for wind quintet in 2023. It is inspired by Alice Munro's 2007 short story of the same title. I have long included the following quotation from the story in the first day of my First-Year Experience course at Lakeland Community College:

Every year, when you are a child, you become a different person. Generally, it's in the fall, when you re-enter school, take your place in a higher grade, leave behind the muddle and lethargy of the summer vacation. That's when you register the change most sharply. Afterward you are not sure of the month or year but the changes go on just the same. For a long time the past drops away from you easily and, it would seem, automatically, properly. Its scenes don't vanish so much as become irrelevant. And then there's a switchback, what's been all over and done with sprouting up fresh, wanting attention, even wanting you to do something about it, though it's plain there is not on this earth a thing to be done.

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Child's Play

MATTHEW C. SAUNDERS (2020, 2023)

Transposed Score

"...there is not on this earth a thing to be done."--Alice Munro

Accelerando molto e crescendo poco a poco

Musical score for measures 1-12. The score is for a woodwind ensemble consisting of Flute, Oboe, Clarinet in B \flat , Horn in F, and Bassoon. The Flute part is silent. The Oboe, Clarinet in B \flat , and Bassoon parts play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with a dynamic marking of *pp*. The Horn in F part plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with a dynamic marking of *pp*.

Musical score for measures 13-21. The score continues with the woodwind ensemble. Measures 13-20 show the continuation of the rhythmic patterns from the previous section. At measure 20, the Oboe, Clarinet in B \flat , and Horn in F parts reach a dynamic marking of *ff*. At measure 21, the Oboe, Clarinet in B \flat , and Horn in F parts play a sustained note with a dynamic marking of *mp*. The Bassoon part plays a sustained note with a dynamic marking of *sfzp*. The Flute part is silent. The dynamic markings *mp* and *sfzp* are indicated with hairpins.

Musical score for measures 22-31. The score is for a woodwind ensemble consisting of Flute, Oboe, Clarinet in B \flat , Horn in F, and Bassoon. The Flute part is silent. The Oboe, Clarinet in B \flat , and Bassoon parts play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with a dynamic marking of *pp*. The Horn in F part plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with a dynamic marking of *pp*.

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2 34 (20)

Fl. (20) G.P.

Ob. (20) *ff* *mp* G.P.

Cl. (20) *ff* *mp* G.P.

Hn. (20) *ff* *sfzp* *mp* G.P.

Bsn. (20) *ff* G.P.

Detailed description: This system covers measures 34 to 42. The flute part is mostly rests, with a final measure containing a whole note G. The oboe, clarinet, and horn parts play a rhythmic eighth-note pattern. The bassoon part plays a similar pattern. Dynamics include *ff* and *mp*. The section ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

43 **molto accel.**

Fl. *p* *molto cresc.* *mp*

Ob. *mp* *molto cresc.*

Cl. *pp* *molto cresc.*

Hn. *mp* *molto cresc.*

Bsn. *pp* *molto cresc.*

Detailed description: This system covers measures 43 to 47. The tempo is marked **molto accel.**. The flute part has a melodic line starting in measure 45. The oboe, clarinet, and horn parts play eighth-note patterns. The bassoon part plays a sixteenth-note pattern. Dynamics include *pp*, *p*, *mp*, and *molto cresc.*

48

Fl. *f*

Ob. *f*

Cl. *f*

Hn. *sfzp*

Bsn. *sfzp*

Detailed description: This system covers measures 48 to 52. The flute part has a melodic line starting in measure 48. The oboe, clarinet, and horn parts play eighth-note patterns. The bassoon part plays a sixteenth-note pattern. Dynamics include *f* and *sfzp*.

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53 **molto accel.** 54 3

FL. *ff* G.P. *pp* molto cresc.

Ob. *ff* G.P.

Cl. *ff* G.P. *pp* molto cresc.

Hn. *ff* G.P.

Bsn. *ff* G.P. *mp* molto cresc.

57

FL. *mf* molto cresc.

Ob. *mf* molto cresc.

Cl. *mf* molto cresc.

Hn. *mf* molto cresc.

Bsn. *f*

61

FL. *ff* non dim. G.P.

Ob. *ff* non dim. G.P.

Cl. *ff* non dim. G.P.

Hn. *ff* non dim. G.P.

Bsn. *ff* non dim. G.P.

f *ff* non dim.

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4 65 $\text{♩} = 80$

FL. *p* *mp* *p* *mp* *ff*

Ob. *mf* *f*

Cl. *mp* *p* *mp* *f*

Hn. *f* *sub. p*

Bsn. *f* *sub. p*

Detailed description: This system covers measures 65 to 69. The flute part features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with dynamic markings of *p*, *mp*, *p*, *mp*, and *ff*. The oboe and clarinet parts enter in measure 67 with *mf* and *f* dynamics respectively. The horn and bassoon parts play a steady eighth-note accompaniment, with the horn starting at *f* and the bassoon at *f*, both moving to *sub. p* by measure 69.

70

FL. *fz sub. p*

Ob. *fz sub. p*

Cl. *p* *mp* *f* *sub. p*

Hn. *mp* *p* *mp* *f* *p*

Bsn. *mp* *p* *mp* *f* *p*

Detailed description: This system covers measures 70 to 73. The flute and oboe parts play a melodic line with *fz sub. p* dynamics. The clarinet part has a more active role with dynamics of *p*, *mp*, *f*, and *sub. p*. The horn and bassoon parts continue their accompaniment with dynamics of *mp*, *p*, *mp*, *f*, and *p*.

74

FL. *mf* *f* *ffp*

Ob. *mf* *f* *ff* *p*

Cl. *mf* *f* *ff* *p*

Hn. *mf* *f* *ff* *p*

Bsn. *mf* *f* *ff* *p*

Detailed description: This system covers measures 74 to 77. The woodwinds play a complex rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The flute, oboe, and clarinet parts all have dynamic markings of *mf*, *f*, *ffp*, and *p*. The horn and bassoon parts also follow this dynamic progression, with the horn and bassoon reaching *ff* in measure 76 before moving to *p* in measure 77.

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78 5

Fl. *mp* *mp* *mf* *f* *mf*

Ob. *mf* *f* *mf*

Cl. *mf* *f* *mf*

Hn. *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf*

Bsn. *p* *mf* *f* *mf* *f* *mf*

poco accel.

82

Fl. *f* *mf* *sub.p*

Ob. *f* *mf* *f* *mf* *sub.p*

Cl. *f* *mf* *f* *sub.p* *mp* *mf* *sub.p*

Hn. *f* *mf* *f* *sub.p* *mp* *mf* *sub.p*

Bsn. *f* *mf* *f* *sub.p* *mp* *mf* *sub.p*

88 $\text{♩} = 108$ $\text{♩} = 80$

Fl. *ff* *mf*

Ob. *ff*

Cl. *ff* *mf*

Hn. *ff*

Bsn. *ff*

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6 94

FL. *sub.p* *ff* *sub.p*

Ob. *mf* *ff* *p*

Cl. *sub.p* *ff* *sub.p*

Hn. *sfz*

Bsn. *sfz*

Detailed description: This system covers measures 94 to 96. The flute and clarinet parts feature a melodic line with dynamic markings of *sub.p*, *ff*, and *sub.p*. The oboe part has *mf*, *ff*, and *p*. The bassoon and horn parts have *sfz* markings. The music is in 6/8 time and includes various articulations like accents and slurs.

97 $\text{♩} = 108$

FL. *mf* *f* *7:6* *ff* *pp*

Ob. *mp* *mp* *mf* *f* *7:6* *ff*

Cl. *mf cresc.* *ff* *pp*

Hn. *mf cresc.* *ff*

Bsn. *p* *mf cresc.* *ff*

Detailed description: This system covers measures 97 to 100. The tempo is marked $\text{♩} = 108$. The flute part has *mf*, *f*, *7:6*, *ff*, and *pp*. The oboe part has *mp*, *mp*, *mf*, *f*, *7:6*, and *ff*. The clarinet part has *mf cresc.*, *ff*, and *pp*. The horn part has *mf cresc.* and *ff*. The bassoon part has *p*, *mf cresc.*, and *ff*. The music is in 6/8 time and includes a 7:6 ratio marking.

101 $\text{♩} = 80$

FL. *ff* *ff*

Ob. *mf* *ff*

Cl. *ff*

Hn. *ff*

Bsn. *mf* *ff*

Detailed description: This system covers measures 101 to 103. The tempo is marked $\text{♩} = 80$. The flute part has *ff* and *ff*. The oboe part has *mf* and *ff*. The clarinet part has *ff*. The horn part has *ff*. The bassoon part has *mf* and *ff*. The music is in 6/8 time and includes various articulations like accents and slurs.

105 $\text{♩} = 108$ 7

FL. *mp* *pp*

Ob. *mp* *pp*

Cl. *mp* *pp* *pp*

Hn. *pp*

Bsn. *mp* *pp* *pp*

109

FL. *f*

Ob. *f*

Cl. *mp* *mf*

Hn. *mp* *mf*

Bsn. *mp* *mf*

114 **molto rit.**

FL. *f* *ff*

Ob. *f* *ff*

Cl. *f* *ff*

Hn. *f* *ff*

Bsn. *ff*

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8 $\text{♩} = 44$ $\text{♩} = 52$

FL. *f* *mf* *pp* *mp*

Ob. *pp* *f* *pp* *mf* *pp* *mp*

Cl. *pp* *f* *pp* *mf* *pp*

Hn. *sfzp* *f* *pp* *mf* *pp* *mp* *pp* *con sordino*

Bsn. *sfzp* *f* *pp* *mf* *pp*

G.P. G.P. G.P. G.P.

pp

Detailed description: This system contains measures 8 through 130. It features five staves for woodwinds: Flute (FL.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet (Cl.), Horn (Hn.), and Bassoon (Bsn.). The tempo is marked with a quarter note equal to 44 beats per minute, which then changes to 52 beats per minute. The score includes various dynamic markings such as *f*, *mf*, *pp*, *mp*, and *sfzp*. The Horn part includes the instruction 'con sordino' starting at measure 115. The Bassoon part has a *pp* marking at the end of the system. The woodwinds are marked with 'G.P.' (Grain Paper) at several points.

131

FL. *mp* *mf*

Ob. *mp* *mf*

Cl. *mp* *p* *mf* *mp*

Hn. *mp*

Bsn. *mp* *pp* *p*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 131 through 137. The woodwinds continue their parts with dynamic markings of *mp*, *mf*, *p*, and *pp*. The Horn part has a *mp* marking. The Bassoon part has *mp*, *pp*, and *p* markings.

138

FL. *pp*

Ob. *mp* *mf*

Cl. *p* *mf*

Hn. *pp* *mp* *p*

Bsn. *p*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 138 through 144. The Flute part has a *pp* marking. The Oboe part has *mp* and *mf* markings. The Clarinet part has *p* and *mf* markings. The Horn part has *pp*, *mp*, and *p* markings. The Bassoon part has a *p* marking.

145 **molto accel.**

Fl. *pp* *p* *mp*

Ob. *mp*

Cl. *pp* *p* *mp*

Hn.

Bsn.

152 **♩. = 128**

Fl. *mp* *f* *mf*

Ob. *mf* *f* *ff* *pp*

Cl. *mf* *f* *ff* *mf*

Hn. *mf* senza sordino

Bsn. *mf*

159 **molto rit.**

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. *p* *mf* *p* *mp*

Hn. *mp*

Bsn. *mp* *f* *mp*

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10 166 $\text{♩} = 44$

Fl. *mf* *mp* *pp*

Ob. *mf* *ff* *mp*

Cl. *f* *ff* *pp* *p >* *pp*

Hn. *ff* *pp* *p* *pp*

Bsn. *ff* *pp* *p* *pp*

ff *p* *pp*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 166 through 173. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 44. The Flute part has a melodic line starting in measure 168 with dynamics *mf*, *mp*, and *pp*. The Oboe and Clarinet parts have rhythmic patterns, with the Clarinet reaching *ff* in measure 170. The Bassoon part has a steady eighth-note accompaniment. Dynamic markings include *mf*, *f*, *ff*, *pp*, *p*, and *pp* across the instruments.

174 $\text{♩} = 44$

Fl. G.P. *f* *pp* *pp* *pp*

Ob. G.P. *ff* *mf*

Cl. G.P. *ff* *pp* *p >* *pp* *pp*

Hn. G.P. *ff* *pp* *p* *pp*

Bsn. G.P. *ff* *pp* *p* *pp*

ff *mp* *p* *pp*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 174 through 181. The Flute part has a melodic line with dynamics *f*, *pp*, *pp*, and *pp*. The Oboe part has a melodic line with dynamics *ff* and *mf*. The Clarinet part has a melodic line with dynamics *ff*, *pp*, *p >*, *pp*, and *pp*. The Bassoon part has a melodic line with dynamics *ff*, *pp*, *p*, and *pp*. The Bass part has a steady eighth-note accompaniment with dynamics *ff*, *mp*, *p*, and *pp*. The marking "G.P." (Grave Performance) is present for the Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, and Bassoon parts.

182 *accel.*

Fl. *mp*

Ob. *p* *mp*

Cl. *p* *mp*

Hn. *pp* *mp*

Bsn. *pp*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 182 through 189. The tempo is marked as *accel.* (accelerando). The Flute part has a melodic line with dynamics *mp*. The Oboe part has a melodic line with dynamics *p* and *mp*. The Clarinet part has a melodic line with dynamics *p* and *mp*. The Bassoon part has a melodic line with dynamics *pp* and *mp*. The Bass part has a steady eighth-note accompaniment with dynamics *pp*. The marking "G.P." is present for the Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, and Bassoon parts.

189

Musical score for measures 189-194. The score is for a woodwind quintet (Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Horn, Bassoon). The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 6/8. The music features a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes. Dynamics include *mf* and *f*. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

195

Musical score for measures 195-199. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 126. The key signature has two flats, and the time signature is 6/8. The music is characterized by a dense texture of sixteenth notes. Dynamics include *ff* and *f*. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

200

Musical score for measures 200-204. The key signature has two flats, and the time signature is 6/8. The music features a complex texture with sixteenth notes and rests. Dynamics include *sub. p* and *ff*. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

12

205

Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bsn.

molto rall.

211

Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bsn.

sfzp

fff

G.P.

217

Fl.
Ob.
Cl.
Hn.
Bsn.

con sordino

mp e senza espressione

p

ppp e senza espr.

pp e senza espressione

pp

ppp

< pp

G.P.