

A Fool's Gambit

Based on the Writings of
Gaius Valerius Catullus (84-54 BC)

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With intensity (♩=50)

Piano

1 *p*

Ped.

2 *misterioso*

p

sim.

3

mp *f*

8va

Narr. *ff*
Gall - - us is a

Pno. *ff*
6 3 6 6 6 6

Ped.

Narr. ⁵
fool!

Pno. *fff p (sub.)*
6 6 6 6

Ped.

6 *mysterious, beginning to paint a picture* **molto rall.**

Narr. Gal - us has two bro - thers:

Pno.

6 6 6 6

Ped. Ped.

7 **Broadly** (♩=50)

Narr. One has a most charm - ing wife, the

Pno. *mf*

6 6

con pedale ad lib.

factually emphatically

Narr. oth-er a charm - ing boy! Syl-via and Sex- tus...

Pno. *mp*

6 6 (*molto rall.*)

Slightly slower (♩=45)

10 *sweetly, seemingly innocent*

Syl. Spar - row, my on - - ly friend.

Pno. *p*

11

Syl. Spar - row, my one com-pan - ion. You—

Pno. *mp*

Syl. 
who play on my lap, and

Pno. 
mp

Syl. 
prick me up on the fin-ger-tips... Give me sol-ace from my

Pno. 
poco
rall.
mp

Syl. 
lone - - li ness. Ah,

Pno. 
p

Syl. *mp* *freely*

might some-one else play as you do, and light-en the cares of my

Pno. *leggiero* *p*

Syl. 17

heart!

Pno. *p* *dim.*

With more motion ($\text{♩}=50$)

18

Sy.1 *mf*
Find me some oth - er friend.

Sex. *poco allargando*
mp 3 3
Look at her play-ing there...

Pno. *mp* *poco allargando*

19

Syl. Bring me some new com-pan-ion...

Sex. *poco allargando*
Happy as a bird...

Pno. *mp* *mf* *poco allargando*

20 *poco rall...*

Syl. Some-one to play on my lap, and

Sex. Stand - ing watch ov - er her, *poco rall...*

Pno. *leggiere* *p* *mp* *poco rall...*

21 *p sultry*

Syl. prick me... me...

Sex. (absolutely unconvincingly) *p* I'm hap-py too.

Pno. *mf* *mp* *mf*

Syl. *mp* *p*
 Give me re-spite from this te - di - um. Ah,

Sex. *f* *mp desperately*
 Give me re - spite... She's my un - cle's wife!

Pno. *ff* *p*

Syl. *mp* *freely*
 might some-one else play as you do, and light-en the cares of my

Pno. *leggiero* *p* *p*

rall.

pp

Syl. heart!

mf mp dolce

Sex. Ah, might I play then as you do, and

8va

Pno. p pp colla voce

3

3

3

Red.

Suddenly Quick (♩=100)

molto rall.

27 p

Syl. light-en the cares of What are you stand-ing there gawk-ing at?

Sex. light-en the cares of her h...

Pno. mp ff meno

meno

Red.

With an air, as if offended

3

3

3

As before (♩=50)

(Sextus runs out of the room)

Syl. *mp a little suggestive*

Is there som-thing you want?

Sex. *nervously*

I... Um...

Pno. *p mp p*

33 Slightly faster (♩=60)

Narr. *mp mf*

Gall-ant is a gall-ant. He helps loves course,

Pno. *p mp meno f*

lightly

Ped. _____

35

Narr. *mp leadingly*

and brings the gall-ant lad — to the bed of the gall-ant lass...

Pno. *p*

(lift pedal slowly across the last beat)

no f

sin

Ped. _____

37

Narr. *pp* Gall-us is a fool! *mf* A fool... *mp* Yes, your

Gal. *mf* lasciviously Your un-cle is a fool.

Pno. *pp* *bell-like* *p*

Ped. (lift suddenly)

40

Narr. *pp* un-cle is a fool!

Gal. *p* There plays a girl in the fresh - est *cresc.*

Pno. (gradually lift pedal) *p* *pedale ad libitum*

Gal. *p* *mp*
 flow'r of youth. More ex - qui-site than

Pno. *p* *mp*

Gal. 49 *mf* *mp* *p*
 an - y thing, to be guard-ed more fer - vid-

Pno. *mf* *bell-like mp* *pp*

Ped. Ped.

poco rall. As the beginning (♩=70)

Gal. 54 *p*
 ly than the rip - est of grapes... And she plays un

Pno. *p*

Ped. Ped.

rall.

Gal. ⁵⁰

guard - ed... Your un - cle is a

Pno. *mp* *piu p* *p*

Like the beginning (♩=50) *p* poco rall.

Mysteriously at first, with growing agitation (♩=60)

Gal. ⁶¹

fool.

Pno. *pp* *pp*

distantly

con pedale

Ped.

63 **accel.**

Pno.

mf cresc.

65 **poco rall.** **Quick at first (♩=75) poco rall.**

Sex.

f exploding suddenly

Syl-via is al-ways in-sult-ing me,—

Pno.

f cresc. ff mf (sub.)

67 **rall.** **With still calm (♩=50)**

Sex.

meno f p (long) p with utter sincerity

and al-ways makes fun of me, and yet... And yet I'll per-ish, if she

(long)

Pno.

f mp (sub.) pp pp

70 *p* *pp*

Sex. loves not me. And by the same to - ken — if I love not her...

Pno. *pp* *mp*

73 *p chiding* *mp* *poco cresc.* **Somewhat slower than before (♩=65)**

Gal. Don't be a fool, Sex-tus. Man should re - vel in the fierce words of a

Pno. *p*

77 *mp* *p* *mp* **rall.** **A tempo (♩=65)**

Gal. wo - man... She burns, and so she talks.

Pno. *mp* *pp* *mp* *f*

deliberately

roll slowly

82 *recitativo, matter-of-factly* *freely, as a suggestion* **rall.** *self-indulgent* - 17

Gal. *p*

That is the way of girls her age. If you want her, she is ripe for the

Pno. *mp colla voce* *p* *mp*

Ped. Ped.

86 **Slow** (♩=50)

Gal. *p*

pick - ing... Just say to her: Give me a

Pno. *colla voce*

Somewhat broader (♩=45)

Gal. *mp*

hou - sand kiss - es _____ and then a hun - dred more. _____ And then an

Pno. *mp*

pedale ad libitum

90

Sex. *mp* *mf*

And then a hun dred more.

Gal. *mf*

oth - er thou - sand... Then give me a -

Pno. *mf* *cresc*

83

Sex. *And then a*

Gal. *no - - ther thou - sand...*

Pno.

93

Sex. *hun - dred more still! and when we've had*

Pno. *f*

94

Sex. *m* - ny thou- sands... We will lose count... and

Gal. And ma - ny hun- dreds... We will lose count...

Pno. *ff* *meno f* *p (sub.)*

96

Sex. *sincerely* no one could be-grudge us, for our kiss - es are so ma - ny.

Pno. *still p (colla voce)*

Sex. *p* *3* Thank you, un- cle.

Gal. *p* *pp* On-ly this could be e - nough...

Pno. *mp* *(pp)* *p*

101 *gallantly* *mp* *poco rall.*

Gal. *3* *3* I could ne-ver stand in the way of love. Now

Pno. *tr* *6* *6* *6*

(Silvia, who has been eavesdropping, rushes to pretend not to have heard)

As before (♩=50)

with feigned innocence

with feigned ignorance

103

Syl. Spar-row, my on - ly fr... Sex-tus, what

Sex. *mf* (bursting in suddenly)
Syl - via...

Gal. *mf*
go!

Pno. *p* *mp*

106

Syl. is it?

Sex. *mp* *f* *mp* *p*
(Sextus, hesitates, then steals himself for telling her.)
How ma ny_ of your kiss es Syl-via_ re e-nough for me... As

Pno. *p* *pp*

110 *mp* *sweetly, at first*

Sex. *3* ma - ny, in the de - sert are grains of sand,

Pno. *p*

112

Sex. *8* Found all through-out the Li - yan wastes:

Pno. *piu f*

114 *with growing confidence*

Sex. *To kiss you with so ma - ny kiss - es...*

Pno. *mf* *mf dim.*

Ped.

116 *desirously*

Syl. *Oh... Sextus...*

Sex. *may - be this could be e - nough... Or, as*

Pno. *brightly mp* *mf* *f (sempre)*

Caught up in his "poetry," Sextus continues obliviously.

Ped.

118 **Faster** (♩=55) *trying to draw his attention* **mf**

Syl. *Just give me a-*

Sex. *ma - ny are the stars, when night is si - lent,*

Pno. *(shamelessly)*

120 *with growing frustration*

Syl. *thou - sand kiss - es... Please give me a-*

Sex. *that see the sto - len loves of men.*

Pno. *cresc. poco a poco*

122 *f* *rall.*

Syl. hun - - dred kiss - es...

Sex. To kiss you with so ma - ny kiss - es...

Pno. *ff*

124 *desperately*

Syl. Sex - tus...

Sex. *proudly* Syl - via: on - ly this could be e -

Pno. *fff*

Sylvio grabs Sextus and begins kissing him voraciously, cutting him off at long last, and then dragging off-stage.

125

Pno.

f ————— *mp*

p ————— *mp* ————— *pp*

Slow, Deliberately (♩ = 50)

126

Pno.

ff

128

Pno.

fff

rall.

f (sub.)

3

130

a tempo ($\text{♩}=50$)

Pno.

p distant

piu p

pp

132

Pno.

ppp

Like the beginning ($\text{♩}=50$)

133

Pno.

pp

Ped.

6

134 *p*

Narr. *Call - - us is a*

8va

Pno. *p misterioso*

6 6 6 6 3

Red.

135 *recitativo*

Narr. *fool! He does not see he has a wife of his*

8

Pno. *pp*

6 6

127

Narr. *down, when he teach-es his ne-phew to se-duce an un cle's wife!*

Pno.

140

Narr. *Yes, ne-phew...*

Sex. *mp innocently Aunt Con-stance?* *simply Has my un - cle*

Pno. *(sustain)*

Red.

with great pleasure

142

Narr. *6/4* *4/4* Yes, and left you to

Sex. *8* gon ?

Pno. *mp* *p* *pp* *colla voce* *3*

Ped.

143 **molto rall.**

Narr. *4/4* guard me...

Pno. *mf* *f* *dim.* *6*

Ped.

a tempo (♩=50)

144

Narr. *p*

Gall us is a fool!

Pno. *p* *piu p* *pp* *ppp*