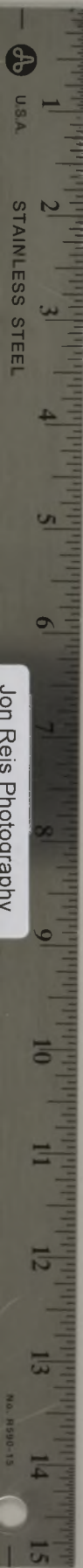


**FORTE  
AND  
PIANO**

**BY**

**F.W. RACKER**

**DECEMBER 24  
1980**



IN A LITTLE TOWN SOMEWHERE  
IN THE NORTH, NAMED TULA,  
THERE LIVED A YOUNG MAN  
WHO PLAYED THE CLARINET.  
HIS NAME WAS CLARENCE.  
HE TRIED TO MAKE A LIVING  
AS BEST HE COULD. BUT  
HE DID NOT ALWAYS FIND WORK.  
YOU SEE - HE LIVED IN A LITTLE  
TOWN AND THERE WERE NOT MANY  
CONCERTS OR MANY STUDENTS.

ONE DAY AN ORCHESTRA  
CAME TO TOWN FROM THE BIG  
CITY TO GIVE A CONCERT.



THEY WERE IN TROUBLE BECAUSE  
THE MAN WHO USUALLY PLAYED THE  
CLARINET HAD MISSED THE PLANE.  
SO, CLARENCE WAS CALLED AND  
PLAYED IN THE CONCERT.

BEFORE THE CONCERT THERE  
WAS A REHEARSAL. THERE  
CLARENCE MET THE LADY WHO  
PLAYED THE FLUTE.

HER NAME WAS FLORA.

CLARENCE AND FLORA LIKED  
EACH OTHER VERY MUCH.

AFTER THE ORCHESTRA LEFT,  
THEY WROTE LETTERS TO EACH  
OTHER.



Mr. Clarence Larence  
15 CELLO STREET  
TULA  
N. DA-CODIA

RENCE  
REET  
A  
A-CODIA  
-CODA

Miss FLORA LORA  
34 VIOLA STREET  
BASS CITY  
N. DA-CODIA

CITY  
DA-CODIA  
B A

ONE DAY CLARENCE WROTE TO FLORA  
AND ASKED HER TO MARRY HIM.

SHE ACCEPTED AND CAME TO  
LIVE WITH HIM IN TULA.

THEY WERE POOR BUT VERY HAPPY  
WITH EACH OTHER AND WITH MAKING  
MUSIC. THEY DID HOPE THAT SOME  
DAY THEY WOULD HAVE A CHILD AND

ON BEETHOVEN'S BIRTHDAY

A BABY BOY WAS BORN. HE RIGHT  
AWAY CRIED VERY LOUD AND

THEREFORE HIS PARENTS CALLED

HIM FORTE. HE WAS A

NICE, ACTIVE, AND SHOWY BOY

AND GAVE HIS PARENTS A LOT

OF JOY.

WHEN HE WAS THREE YEARS OLD,  
A LITTLE SISTER WAS BORN ON  
MOZART'S BIRTHDAY. SHE CAME  
A LITTLE EARLY AND WAS QUITE  
TINY. SHE CRIED AS SOON AS  
SHE WAS BORN BUT IT WAS A  
SOFT CRY AND THEREFORE HER  
PARENTS CALLED HER PIANO.  
PIANO WAS A SWEET LITTLE  
GIRL. SHE WAS SMALL BUT  
HEALTHY.

BOTH CHILDREN LOVED MUSIC.  
THEY LISTENED AND CONDUCTED  
WITH THEIR LITTLE FEET AND  
HANDS WHENEVER MUSIC WAS PLAYED.  
SOON THEY LEARNED TO SING AND



THEY HAD LOVELY VOICES AND  
SANG EVEN DIFFICULT SONGS  
CORRECTLY.

THEIR FATHER AND MOTHER  
WOULD HAVE LIKED TO TEACH  
THEM TO PLAY THE PIANO BUT  
TIMES WERE HARD AND THEY  
COULD NOT AFFORD TO BUY ONE.

THEN ONE DAY THERE WAS TO  
BE A PERFORMANCE OF A NEW  
SYMPHONY WITH CHILDREN'S  
VOICES IN THE TOWN'S CONCERT  
HALL. THE NEWSPAPER HAD AN  
ADVERTISEMENT THAT THERE WOULD  
BE AN AUDITION FOR CHILDREN  
ON SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

TULA WEEKLY

AUGUST 24, 2000

! AUDITION ! AUDITION !

FOR TALENTED

CHILDREN

SATURDAY 3 p.m.

BARNES HALL

SING WITH YOUR BEST

VOICE

FOR WINNERS :

CONCERT PERFORMANCE

FOR NON-WINNERS :

CANDY BARS

~~!~~ COME AND SING !

CLARENCE AND FLORA ASKED THE  
CHILDREN WHETHER THEY WOULD  
LIKE TO TRY AND THEY GOT ALL  
EXCITED.

THERE WERE MANY CHILDREN  
IN THE CONCERT HALL. ONE  
MAN SAT AT THE PIANO AND  
PLAYED A TUNE. EACH CHILD  
THERE, IN TURN, HAD TO SING  
THAT TUNE AS HE OR SHE REMEMBERED  
IT.

THE COMPOSER OF THE SYMPHONY  
AND THE  
AND THE CONDUCTOR LISTENED AND  
BOTH WERE VERY NERVOUS BECAUSE  
MOST OF THE BOYS AND GIRLS THERE  
DID VERY POORLY. THEN FORTE



AND PIANO CAME FORWARD. EACH  
OF THEM SANG THE TUNE WHICH  
WAS PLAYED ON THE KEYBOARD  
PERFECTLY AND WITH BEAUTIFUL  
VOICE AND EXPRESSION. THEY  
WERE CHOSEN TO SING IN THE  
CONCERT WHICH WAS A GREAT  
SUCCESS BECAUSE THEY WERE  
SO WONDERFUL.

AFTER THE CONCERT, THE  
COMPOSER CAME TO CLARENCE  
AND FLORA AND CONGRATULATED  
THEM ON THEIR CHILDREN'S  
TALENT.



"ARE THEY TAKING PIANO LESSONS,"

HE ASKED.

"WE CANNOT AFFORD A PIANO RIGHT

NOW," THE PARENTS SAID.

"THIS MUST BE REMEDIED,"

ANSWERED THE COMPOSER.

ON THE FOLLOWING DAY A BEAUTIFUL

PIANO ARRIVED AT CLARENCE'S

FLORA'S

FORTE'S

PIANO'S HOUSE.

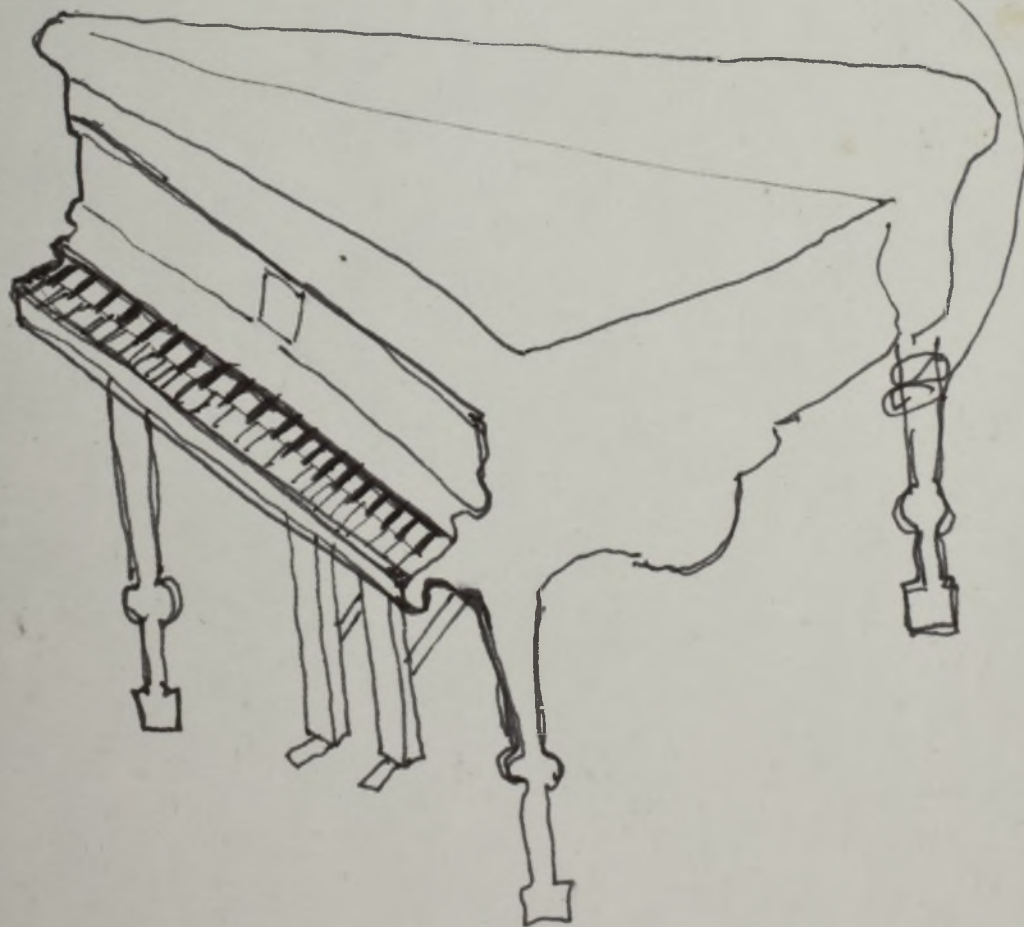
A CARD WAS ATTACHED TO IT

"WITH THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE COMPOSER."

AND THEY PLAYED HAPPILY, BEAUTIFULLY

EVER AFTER.

WITH THE COMPLIMENTS  
OF THE COMPOSER





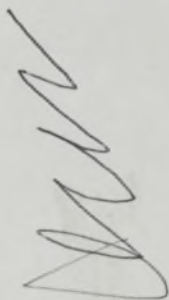
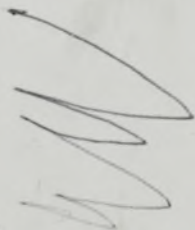
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A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Clarence', written vertically on the right side of the page.A second handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Flora', written vertically on the right side of the page, below the first signature.