



CHRISTOPHER HEALEY

The
Tale of Jax

FOR

Solo Violin



2011

Queensland, Australia

About *The Tale of Jax*:

The Tale of Jax is based on the story of a boy named Jax who fell in love with the moon and his desperate pursuit to capture her. "When you love something, you have to make sure it loves you back, or you'll bring about no end of trouble chasing it." The specific telling of this story can be found in the novel *The Name of the Wind* by Patrick Rothfuss.

"A variation on this tale is told by Hesse, a female mercenary. In this tale, an unhappy boy named Jax bet a tinker that he could not make him happy. The tinker lost, but in the course of the contest, Jax looked upon the moon and decided that the only thing that would make him happy was to possess the moon. So taking his winnings, all of the tinker's packs and his hat (an unlucky sign), Jax traveled long and far to capture the moon. Many years passed and he met a wise man with knowledge of names. When Jax asks the old man's name, he declines to give it explaining that knowing even a small portion of a true name gives power over that person. When the old man learns of Jax's desire to possess the moon, he tells him, "When you love something, you have to make sure it loves you back, or you'll bring about no end of trouble chasing it." The old man then offers to teach the young man how to listen to the moon to see if he is loved. But at the prospect of taking a couple years to learn how to listen in this way, Jax goes on his way. After climbing to the highest peaks, he built a crooked mansion and called to the moon by playing a sad song on a magic flute found in the tinker's pack. The moon came to him, and she was beautiful and Jax had the first moment of happiness in his life. When the moon went to leave, Jax said, "I have given you three things. My song, a house, and my heart," and asks for three things in return. She answered that while she possessed nothing, if she had what he asked of her, she would give it. So he asked for a touch of her hand, a kiss, and her name. After she told Jax her name is Ludis, Jax brought out a black iron box and trapped her name in it, proclaiming that now that he had captured her name, he had power over her. Though he had not captured her entirely, he did catch a piece. This is why the moon must always return to him, yet always slips away again. This is what accounts for the changing of the moon."

(Paraphrased version courtesy of Wikipedia)

THE TALE OF JAX

for Solo Violin

The Tale of Jax

Solo Violin

I.

Slow, Very Expressive, Rubato and Deeply Coloured ♩ = 88

Play with all the heart and the bitter, aching longingness of a broken soul

Violin

mp *A niente* *mp* *A niente*

7 *mp* *p* *cresc.*

13 *mf* *p*

20 *mp* *p* *mf* *A little sul pont*

26 *pp* *mf* *dim.*

34 *ppp* *mf* *f*

39 *f* *mp* *p*

45 *mf*

54 *ff* *dim.*

II.

Slower ♩ = c. 72

Sul Tasto

62

pp

66

(Ord.)
pizz.

arco

pizz.

f

mp

69

arco

p

mp

72

Sul D and A

mf

73

f

74

f

75

mp

76

mp

77 *p*

78 *p*

81 *pizz.* *rit.* *arco* IV. *mp*

(Ord.) *A little faster* $\text{♩} = \text{c. } 88$ *f* *arco* Ric. *mp*

84 *f* *mp*

87 *Stately.* *mf* *pizz.*

91 *arco* *pizz.* *arco* *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

94 *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

97 *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

100 *p* *mf* *p*

103 *p* *mf* *p*

Slower $\text{♩} = c. 72$ *Freely, tempo & rubato ad lib.*

106 *mp*

108 *a tempo*

110

111

112

114 *ff* *mf* *ff*

115 *mf* *ff*

116 *mf* *ff*

117 *fff*

119 *pp* *mf*

123 *pp*

129 pizz. arco *ppp*

The musical score consists of three staves. The first staff (measures 119-122) begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 3/4 time signature. It starts with a half note on C4, followed by eighth notes, and triplet eighth notes. A wavy line above the staff indicates a tremolo. The second staff (measures 123-128) continues with triplet eighth notes and eighth notes, ending with a half note on C4. The third staff (measures 129-132) starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp, and a 3/4 time signature. It features a half note on C4, followed by eighth notes, and triplet eighth notes. A wavy line above the staff indicates a tremolo. The piece ends with a double bar line.