

FIVE CHARACTERS FROM DAVID COPPERFIELD

by Stephen Lias

for solo alto saxophone
with optional narrator



ALIAS PRESS

FIVE CHARACTERS from DAVID COPPERFIELD

by Stephen Lias

Written in 2003 for Brian Utley



NARRATION:

(to be read dramatically either by the performer or a separate reader)

Charles Dickens is known for creating some of the most memorable characters in all of English literature.

In his great novel ***David Copperfield***, the main character learns about himself (and all of humanity) through his interactions with the bad, good, lonely, merciless, and faithful people that surround him. This composition attempts to capture some of these characters and portray them through music.

The first is **URLAH HEEP**.

He pretends to be very humble and friendly;
but underneath, he has a black heart.

He takes advantage of the trusting people around him,
drawing them into his web of greed
and infecting them like a slow cancer.

He is a snake.

But still...

he acts so very humble.

I. Uriah Heep

Stephen Lias

Freely

p 3 *mp* 3 *mp* 3 *f*

Still very free

p *mf* *pp* *mf* *pp* *f*

6 accel. poco a poco

pp *f* *mf*

12 growl

f *ff* *mf*

18

ff *mf*

24

29 *fff* *pp*

33

mf *p*

36

f

II. Traddles

Whimsically $\text{♩} = 112$

Stephen Lias

mf
(key clicks)
pp
f
pp

5
p
f
mf

8
p
f
mf

11
(grunt)
f
mf

Sweetly $\text{♩} = 144$

14
mp
molto vib.

20

27
mf

35
3
3
3

41
rit.
3

III. Emily

Very Freely $\text{♩} = 60$
 (air) (Khhh)
 p (like waves coming ashore)

Stephen Lias

4

8

12

15

18

22

26

29

32

Gaining Momentum $\text{♩} = \text{c. } 60$

rit. A tempo

accel. poco a poco

f fff

IV. Mister Micawber

Stephen Lias

Grandioso $\text{♩} = 110$

Pompously

8

12

f
mp
f
mp
f

15

Despairingly $\text{♩} = \text{c. } 60$

20

mp
p

25

Starting slowly, then gaining speed

29

Confidently $\text{♩} = 110$

32

35

V. Steerforth

Cheerfully $\text{♩} = 144$

Stephen Lias

6

11

16 dolce
f mp mf mp

22 f ff mp f mp <

28 f ff 3 3 mp f 3

32 3 p 3

37 f rit.