

Grade

1½

Music for String Orchestra

Endgame

Jay Coles

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INSTRUMENTATION

Violin I	8
Violin II	8
Violin III (Viola T.C.)	2
Viola	5
Cello	5
Bass	5

Performance Notes

The “endgame” is the final stage of a game such as chess, bridge, or backgammon, when few pieces or cards remain. This is a piece full of spirit and zeal that describes the intensity of the last moments of an epic match or intense game. The piece opens with a mysterious-sounding chord that works to build suspense before the main melody appears. Dynamics should be exaggerated greatly, especially when the main theme is introduced. This motif should be played with a bold and confident sound from all sections, but especially from the cello and bass players. A slower, calmer section is introduced before the main theme and energy returns. This slower section should continue with the same overall feel of the piece while also following all dynamic markings and the sudden tempo change. This piece was written for and dedicated to my sixth-grade orchestra teacher. We both happen to really love chess.

About the Composer

Jay Coles (b. 1995) is a composer, author, conductor, clinician, and public speaker who brings fun, unique, and highly educational music to the stage. His music has been performed all over the world, including the Midwest Clinic. His music appears on various concert and festival lists as well as earned J.W. Pepper’s Editor’s choice selections. Mr. Coles holds degrees from Vincennes University and Ball State University.

Jay’s books are published by Little, Brown Books for Young Readers and Scholastic. His books have appeared in the New York Times, Teen Vogue, Buzzfeed, Bustle, and Entertainment Weekly, among other media outlets. His writing has won numerous award nominations and honors. Jay currently resides in Muncie, Indiana with his cat named Sage and when he’s not composing music or writing books or cleaning up messes from his cat, he’s playing drums for a band and playing video games, two of his favorite things to do. Jay is a member of ASCAP and is thrilled to be a part of the Carl Fischer family of composers.

Endgame

JAY COLES

Andante ♩ = 96

rit.

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Cello

Bass

mp *mf*

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

This musical score block covers measures 1 through 8. It is written for five instruments: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, and Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The tempo is marked 'Andante' with a quarter note equal to 96 beats per minute. The dynamics start at mezzo-piano (*mp*) and increase to mezzo-forte (*mf*) by measure 7. A 'rit.' (ritardando) marking is placed above measure 7. Each instrument part features a melodic line with various articulations, including slurs and accents. A large red watermark is overlaid diagonally across the score.

9 Allegro ♩ = 156

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

f

9 10 11 12 13 14 15

This musical score block covers measures 9 through 15. The tempo changes to 'Allegro' with a quarter note equal to 156 beats per minute. The dynamics are marked as forte (*f*). The instrumentation remains the same: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, and Bass. The music is more rhythmic and active than the previous section, with many notes and accents. A large red watermark is overlaid diagonally across the score.

17

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23

This musical system covers measures 16 through 23. It features five staves: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, and Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#). Measure 17 is marked with a box containing the number 17. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings like accents (>) and hairpins (v). A large red watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page.

25

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

24 25 26 27 28 29 30

This musical system covers measures 24 through 30. It features five staves: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Cello, and Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#). Measure 25 is marked with a box containing the number 25. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings like accents (>) and hairpins (v). A large red watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page.

48

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

p

f

45 46 47 48 49 50

56

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

51 52 53 54 55 56

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

57 58 59 60 61 62 63

64

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

64 65 66 67 68 69

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

70 71 72 73 74 75 76

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

77 78 79 80 81 82 83

78

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

rit.

p *f*

84 85 86 87 88 89 90

91 Andante ♩ = 96

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

mf *mp*

91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98

101 Allegro ♩ = 156

Musical score for measures 99-105. The score is for five instruments: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Cello, and Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'Allegro' with a quarter note equal to 156 beats. The dynamic marking is 'f' (forte). The score shows a sequence of notes and rests for each instrument, with some notes marked with accents (>) and breath marks (v). A large red watermark 'For promotional use only' is overlaid diagonally across the score.

Musical score for measures 106-112. The score is for five instruments: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., Cello, and Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked 'Allegro' with a quarter note equal to 156 beats. The dynamic marking is 'mf' (mezzo-forte). The score shows a sequence of notes and rests for each instrument, with some notes marked with accents (>) and breath marks (v). A large red watermark 'For promotional use only' is overlaid diagonally across the score.

119

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

113 114 115 116 117 118 119

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

120 121 122 123 124 125 126

131

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

127 128 129 130 131 132 133

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Cello

Bass

134 135 136 137 138 139

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