

The Father Book

[2011]

for guitar and electronics

AARON GRAD

The Father Book

37 minutes.

Commissioned by the Music Center at Strathmore, North Bethesda, Maryland.

All sounds in the recorded electronics originated on a clavichord built by the composer's father, John Grad, in 1967. The samples were recorded between 2001 and 2011, and assembled and processed using Ableton Live software.

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TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

- seven-string electric guitar (low string tuned to B)
- metal slide
- individual pedals or multi-effects unit including:
 - volume pedal
 - distortion (warm, smooth and very saturated)
 - delay (delay time less than a second, decay over six to eight cycles)
 - tremolo (wide, slow pulses of volume; not pitch shift or vibrato)
- guitar amplifier with reverb
- playback mechanism for electronics (CD player, laptop, etc.)
- stereo house amplification for electronics
- onstage monitor for electronics

The written score contains the guitar part only, plus cues of key material from the electronics.

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The Father Book

I. Prologue

♩ = 126

Aaron Grad [2011]

Electronics

Guitar

Elec.

Gtr.

8

p sweet

rall.

Elec.

Gtr.

13

a tempo (♩ = 126)

Elec.

Gtr.

19

slight accel.

Gtr. 24 *mp*

Gtr. 28

Gtr. 33 *p bell-like*

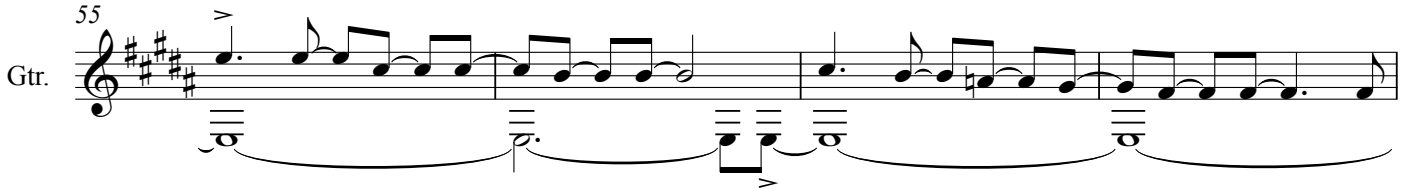
♩ = 130

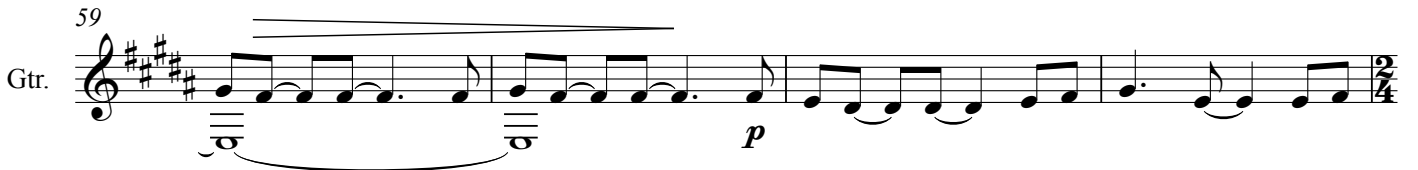
Gtr. 38 *pp* (thumb)

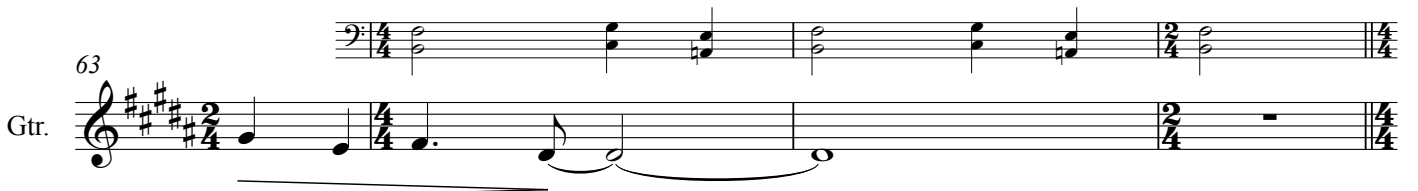
Gtr. 45

Gtr. 48 *f* *v* on D string

Gtr. 52

55 Gtr. 

59 Gtr. 

63 Gtr. 

67 Gtr. 

73 Gtr. 

79 Gtr. 

83 Gtr. 

87 Gtr. 

90

Gtr.

95

Gtr.

p sweet

8^{va}

99

Gtr.

8^{va}

102

Gtr.

(8)

106

Gtr.

Musical notation for guitar system 1, measures 110-114. The system consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 4/4 time signature. It contains a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, including slurs and accents. The bottom staff is also in treble clef with the same key signature and time signature, labeled 'Gtr.' on the left. It contains a bass line with eighth and sixteenth notes, including slurs and accents. The dynamic marking *pp* is placed below the first measure of the bottom staff.

Musical notation for guitar system 2, measures 115-118. The system consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 2/4 time signature. It contains a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, including slurs and accents. The bottom staff is also in treble clef with the same key signature and time signature, labeled 'Gtr.' on the left. It contains a bass line with eighth and sixteenth notes, including slurs and accents.

Musical notation for guitar system 3, measures 119-122. The system consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 4/4 time signature. It contains a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, including slurs and accents. The bottom staff is also in treble clef with the same key signature and time signature, labeled 'Gtr.' on the left. It contains a bass line with eighth and sixteenth notes, including slurs and accents.

II. Youth

♩ = 118

Electronics *scrapes*

Guitar *with slide* *f* *mf* *fingered*

(+ = slide to next note)

4

Gtr. *p* *mf*

7

Gtr.

10

Gtr. *f*

13

Gtr. *p* *mf*

16

Gtr. *p* *f*

19

Gtr. *8va* *with slide* *clav.*

22

Gtr.

27

Gtr.

fingering

mp

31

Gtr.

poco cresc.

ff

p sub.

pp

sul pont.

35

Gtr.

with slide

p

fp

ff

39

Gtr.

fingering

43

Gtr.

with slide

Gtr. 47 *f*

Staff 47: Treble clef, key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). Measure 47: *f* dynamic, quarter note chord (F#, C#, G#). Measure 48: eighth notes (F#, C#, G#) with a wavy line above. Measure 49: eighth notes (F#, C#, G#) with a wavy line above. Measure 50: eighth notes (F#, C#, G#) with a wavy line above. Bass clef: Measure 47: quarter note (F#). Measure 48: quarter note (C#). Measure 49: quarter note (G#). Measure 50: quarter note (F#).

Gtr. 50

Staff 50: Treble clef, key signature of three sharps. Measure 50: eighth notes (F#, C#, G#) with a wavy line above. Measure 51: eighth notes (F#, C#, G#) with a wavy line above. Measure 52: eighth notes (F#, C#, G#) with a wavy line above. Measure 53: eighth notes (F#, C#, G#) with a wavy line above. Bass clef: Measure 50: quarter note (F#). Measure 51: quarter note (C#). Measure 52: quarter note (G#). Measure 53: quarter note (F#).

Gtr. 53

Staff 53: Treble clef, key signature of three sharps. Measure 53: eighth notes (F#, C#, G#) with a wavy line above. Measure 54: eighth notes (F#, C#, G#) with a wavy line above. Measure 55: eighth notes (F#, C#, G#) with a wavy line above. Measure 56: eighth notes (F#, C#, G#) with a wavy line above. Bass clef: Measure 53: quarter note (F#). Measure 54: quarter note (C#). Measure 55: quarter note (G#). Measure 56: quarter note (F#).

Gtr. 56

Staff 56: Treble clef, key signature of three sharps. Measure 56: eighth notes (F#, C#, G#) with a wavy line above and a '+' sign. Measure 57: eighth notes (F#, C#, G#) with a wavy line above. Measure 58: eighth notes (F#, C#, G#) with a wavy line above. Measure 59: eighth notes (F#, C#, G#) with a wavy line above. Bass clef: Measure 56: quarter note (F#). Measure 57: quarter note (C#). Measure 58: quarter note (G#). Measure 59: quarter note (F#).

clav.

Staff 59: Bass clef, key signature of three sharps. Measure 59: quarter note (F#), eighth note (C#), quarter note (G#). Measure 60: quarter note (F#), eighth note (C#), quarter note (G#). Measure 61: quarter note (F#), eighth note (C#), quarter note (G#). Measure 62: quarter note (F#), eighth note (C#), quarter note (G#).

Gtr. 59 *p*

Staff 59: Treble clef, key signature of three sharps. Measure 59: eighth notes (F#, C#, G#) with a wavy line above. Measure 60: eighth notes (F#, C#, G#) with a wavy line above. Measure 61: eighth notes (F#, C#, G#) with a wavy line above. Measure 62: eighth notes (F#, C#, G#) with a wavy line above. Bass clef: Measure 59: quarter note (F#). Measure 60: quarter note (C#). Measure 61: quarter note (G#). Measure 62: quarter note (F#). *p* dynamic.

Gtr. 62 *ppp*

Staff 62: Treble clef, key signature of three sharps. Measure 62: eighth notes (F#, C#, G#) with a wavy line above. Measure 63: eighth notes (F#, C#, G#) with a wavy line above. Measure 64: eighth notes (F#, C#, G#) with a wavy line above. Measure 65: eighth notes (F#, C#, G#) with a wavy line above. Bass clef: Measure 62: quarter note (F#). Measure 63: quarter note (C#). Measure 64: quarter note (G#). Measure 65: quarter note (F#). *ppp* dynamic.

65

Gtr.

69

Gtr.

72

Gtr.

75

Gtr.

78

Gtr.

81

Gtr.

84

Gtr.

clav.

f

p *mf*

f

p

to bridge pickup

p

8va

87 *8^{va}*

Gtr. *cresc. poco a poco*

91 (8)

95 (8)

98 (8)

fff

III. Angst

♩ = 50

Electronics

Guitar

delay on

to neck pickup

Elec.

Gtr.

7

with electronics

pp

distortion on

f

Elec.

Gtr.

13

distortion off

pp

distortion on

8va

f

Elec.

Gtr.

21

distortion off

pp

Elec.

Gtr.

25

distortion on

8va

f

Elec.

Gtr.

32

distortion off

pp

distortion on

f

Electrical guitar and bass score. The score is written in treble clef for guitar and bass clef for electric bass. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#).

Measures 39-44: **distortion off**, *pp* (pianissimo). The guitar part features a series of chords and a melodic line. **distortion on** begins at measure 45.

Measures 45-49: *f* (forte). The guitar part continues with a melodic line. A tempo change to 2/4 is indicated at measure 45, and another to 3/4 at measure 49.

Measures 50-55: *p* (piano) to *ff* (fortissimo). **slight accel.** (slight acceleration) is indicated. The guitar part features a melodic line.

Measures 56-61: *f* (forte). The guitar part continues with a melodic line.

Measures 62-67: *f* (forte). A tempo change to $(\text{♩} = 52)$ is indicated. The guitar part continues with a melodic line.

Measures 68-74: *ff* (fortissimo). The guitar part continues with a melodic line.

Measures 75-80: **slight rit.** (slight ritardando). The guitar part continues with a melodic line.

Measures 81-86: *p* (piano). **distortion off**. The guitar part continues with a melodic line. A tempo change to 2/4 is indicated at measure 81, and another to 3/4 at measure 86.

Measures 87-92: $(\text{♩} = 50)$. The guitar part continues with a melodic line.

Measures 93-98: The guitar part continues with a melodic line.

Elec. 

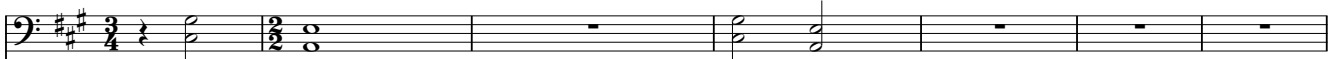
Gtr. 99 
pp *f*
distortion on


Elec. 

Gtr. 106 
pp *f*
distortion off distortion on *8va*

Elec. 

Gtr. 114 
pp
distortion off

Elec. 

Gtr. 122 
f *p* *f*
distortion on

Elec. 

Gtr. 129 
pp
distortion off delay off

IV. Knowledge

♩ = 119

Electronics

Guitar

with thumb, bass sound

p

5

Gtr.

Faster, ♩ = 133

with electronics

accel. poco a poco

9

Gtr.

mf

13

Gtr.

17

Gtr.

22
Gtr.

26
Gtr.

31
Gtr.

35
Gtr.

39
Gtr.

42
Gtr.

45
Gtr.

48

Gtr.

ppp *cresc. poco a poco*

52

Gtr.

56 *poco rit.*

Gtr.

p

slower

V. Love

♩ = 74 chattering and church bells percussive sounds

Electronics

Guitar

p sustained

6

Gtr.

11

Gtr.

VI

percussive sounds

exhale

3

16

Gtr.

pp

clavichord

22

Gtr.

with slide

p

30

Gtr.

35

Gtr.

percussive sounds

40

Gtr.

exhale

44 artificial harmonics

mp

Detailed description: This system contains the first two staves of music. The top staff is a vocal line in 3/4 time, starting with a whole note followed by a triplet of eighth notes. The word 'exhale' is written above the first note. The bottom staff is a guitar line in 3/4 time, starting with a whole rest followed by a triplet of eighth notes. The word 'artificial harmonics' is written above the first note. The dynamic marking *mp* is placed below the first note of the guitar line. The key signature has three sharps (F#, C#, G#).

51

Gtr.

Detailed description: This system contains a single staff of guitar music for measures 51 through 57. The music consists of a continuous eighth-note pattern in 3/4 time. The key signature remains three sharps.

58

Gtr.

0 0 0

l.v.

Detailed description: This system contains a single staff of guitar music for measures 58 through 64. It features a melodic line with some slurs and a triplet of eighth notes. The key signature changes to two sharps (F#, C#) at the end of the system. The dynamic marking *l.v.* is at the end. The notation '0 0 0' is written above the final measure.

65

Gtr.

0 0 0

sim.

Detailed description: This system contains a single staff of guitar music for measures 65 through 69. It features a melodic line with a triplet of eighth notes. The dynamic marking *sim.* is present. The notation '0 0 0' is written above the first measure.

70

Gtr.

0

0

Detailed description: This system contains a single staff of guitar music for measures 70 through 72. It features a melodic line with some slurs. The notation '0' is written above the first and second measures.

73

Gtr.

0

0

Detailed description: This system contains a single staff of guitar music for measures 73 through 75. It features a melodic line with some slurs. The notation '0' is written above the first and second measures.

76

Gtr.

Detailed description: This system contains a single staff of guitar music for measures 76 through 78. It features a melodic line with some slurs. The notation '0' is written above the first and second measures.

Gtr. 80 *0 0 sim.*

Gtr. 83

Gtr. 86

Gtr. 89

Gtr. 92

Gtr. 95

Gtr. 98

Gtr. 100 *poco rit.*

VI. Games

♩ = 120

Electronics

Guitar

r.h. hammer-ons

l.h. hammer-ons

Gtr.

Gtr.

Gtr.

Gtr.

11
Gtr.

14
Gtr.

18
Gtr.

20
Gtr.

21
Gtr.

23
Gtr.

Gtr. 25

Musical notation for guitar, measures 25-26. Measure 25 contains two groups of triplets. Measure 26 contains a triplet followed by a series of sixteenth-note chords.

Gtr. 27

(6) **Faster** (♩ = 132)

Musical notation for guitar, measures 27-28. Measure 27 contains two groups of triplets. Measure 28 contains a series of sixteenth-note chords.

Gtr. 29

Musical notation for guitar, measure 29. Contains a series of sixteenth-note chords and a triplet at the end.

Gtr. 31

Musical notation for guitar, measures 31-32. Measure 31 contains two groups of triplets. Measure 32 contains a series of sixteenth-note chords.

Gtr. 33

Musical notation for guitar, measure 33. Contains a series of sixteenth-note chords and a triplet at the end.

Gtr. 35

poco rall.

Musical notation for guitar, measures 35-36. Measure 35 contains two groups of triplets. Measure 36 contains a series of sixteenth-note chords.

VII. Mystery

♩ = 112

rit.

Electronics

Guitar

mf

a tempo

rit.

a tempo

Elec.

Gtr.

p

poco rit.

a tempo

Elec.

Gtr.

f *p*

poco rit.

a tempo

Elec.

Gtr.

p

poco rit. *a tempo*

Elec.

Gtr.

poco rit. *a tempo*

Elec.

Gtr.

poco rit. *a tempo*

Elec.

Gtr.

accel.

Elec.

Gtr.

rit. *a tempo*

Elec.

Gtr.

♩ = 90

Elec.

Gtr.

Elec.

Gtr.

Elec.


Gtr.

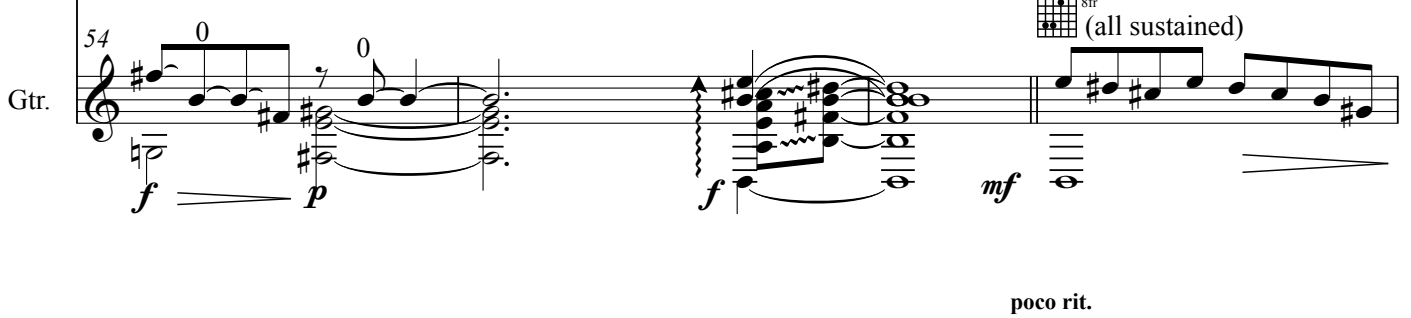
Elec.

Gtr.

Elec.

Gtr.

Elec. 


Gtr. 


f *p* *f* *mf*

8fr (all sustained)

0

poco rit.

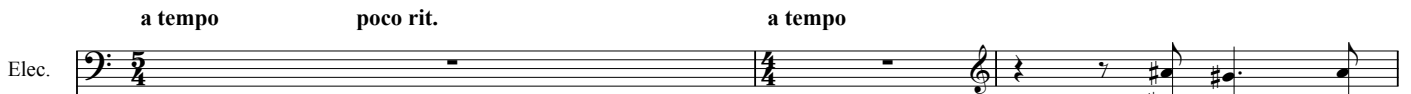
Elec. 


Gtr. 

58 *p* *mf* *p* *mf* *p*

8fr (all sustained)

9fr (all sustained)


Elec. 

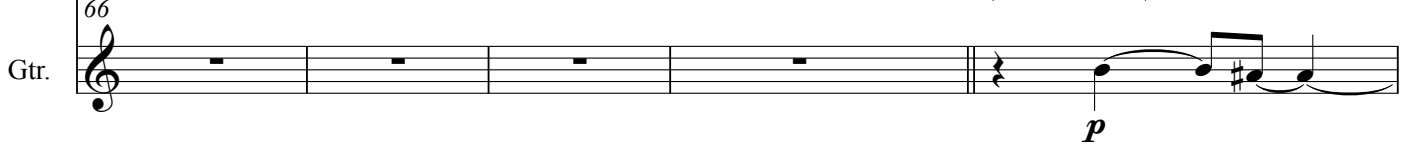
Gtr. 

63 *mf*

7fr (all sustained)

a tempo *poco rit.* *a tempo*

Elec. 

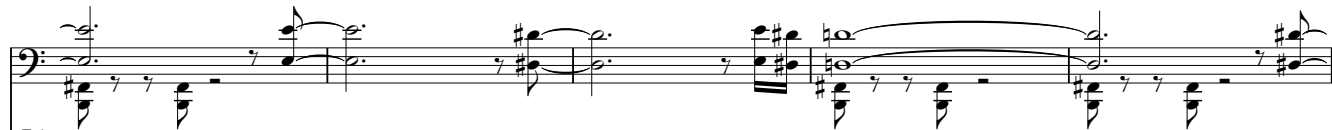

Gtr. 

66 *p*

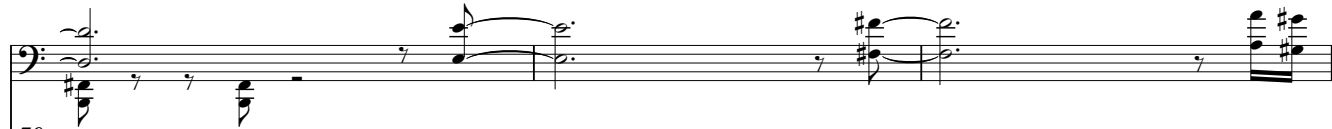

Elec. 

Gtr. 

71 *mf*

Elec.  74 


Detailed description: This system covers measures 74 to 78. The electric guitar part (Elec.) is in the bass clef, featuring a steady eighth-note accompaniment with occasional chords. The acoustic guitar part (Gtr.) is in the treble clef, playing a melodic line with eighth notes and a triplet of eighth notes in measure 76.

Elec.  79 


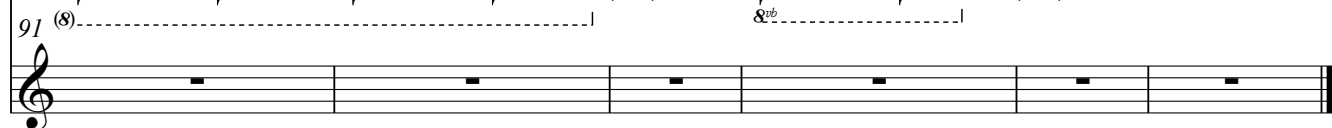
Detailed description: This system covers measures 79 to 81. The electric guitar part (Elec.) continues with a similar bass line. The acoustic guitar part (Gtr.) features a more active melodic line with eighth notes and some slurs.

Elec.  82 

Detailed description: This system covers measures 82 to 85. The electric guitar part (Elec.) has a more complex bass line with some longer notes. The acoustic guitar part (Gtr.) has a melodic line with some slurs and a final long note in measure 85.

Elec.  86  *accel.*

Detailed description: This system covers measures 86 to 90. The electric guitar part (Elec.) features a more active bass line. The acoustic guitar part (Gtr.) has a fast, rhythmic melodic line. An *accel.* (accelerando) marking is present above the electric guitar staff in measure 89. A *qu* (quasi) marking is present below the electric guitar staff in measure 89.

Elec.  91  *rit.*

Detailed description: This system covers measures 91 to 95. The electric guitar part (Elec.) has a rhythmic bass line. The acoustic guitar part (Gtr.) is mostly silent, with some notes in measure 91. A *rit.* (ritardando) marking is present above the electric guitar staff in measure 93. A *qu* (quasi) marking is present below the electric guitar staff in measure 93.

VIII. Recognition

♩ = 82 *poco accel.*

Electronics

Guitar

♩ = 89

Elec.

Gtr. *mp relaxed*

13

Gtr.

17

Gtr.

21

Gtr. *mf*

28

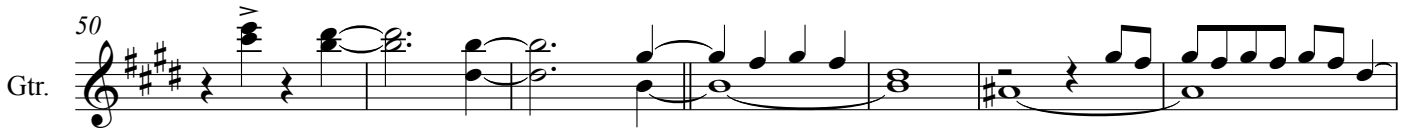
Gtr.

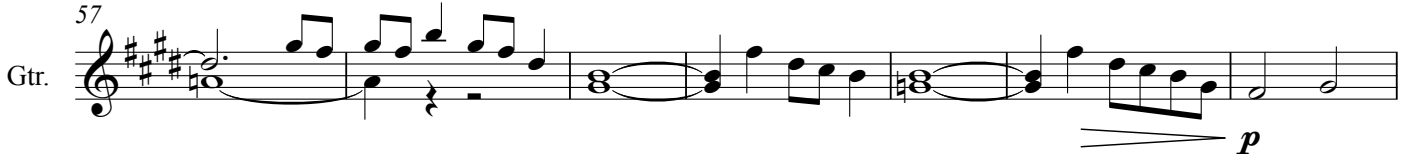
34

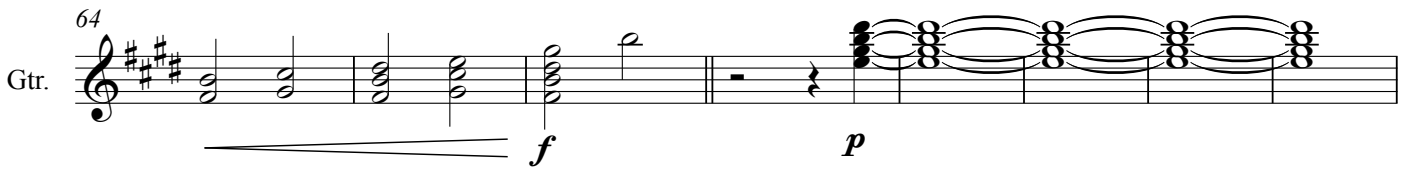
Gtr.

42

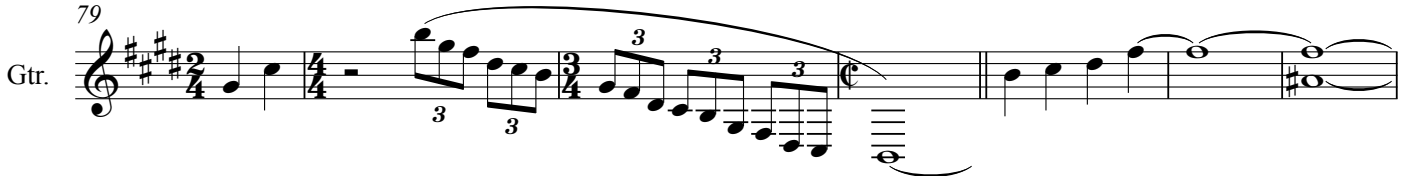
Gtr. *p* *f*

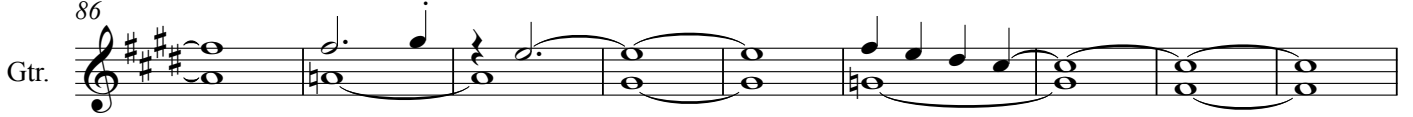
Gtr. 50 

Gtr. 57 

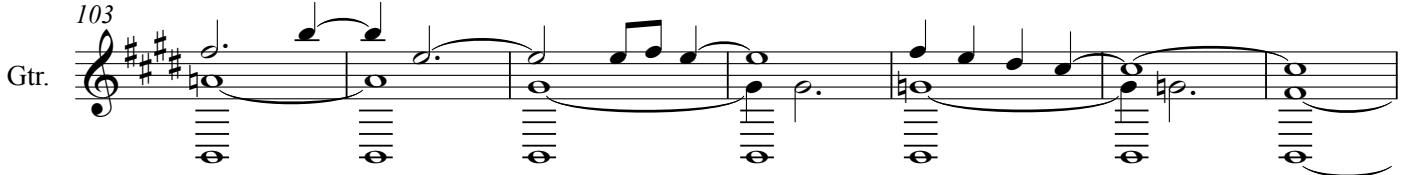
Gtr. 64 

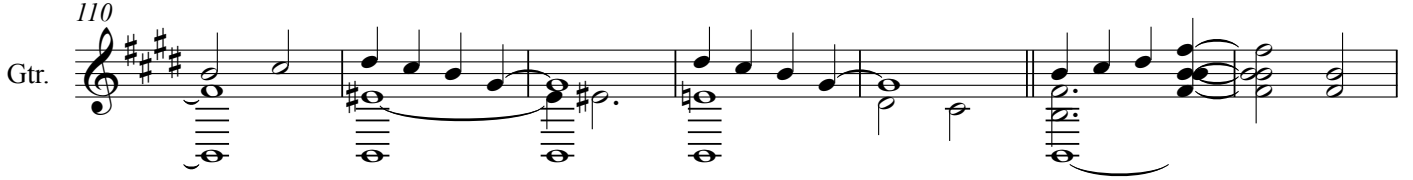
Gtr. 72 

Gtr. 79 

Gtr. 86 

Gtr. 95 

Gtr. 103 

Gtr. 110 

117
Gtr.

123
Gtr.

129
Gtr.

(sounds 8va)

f

134
Gtr.

p

140
Gtr.

ff

144
Gtr.

mf *ff* *mf* *ff*

148
Gtr.

3 3 3 3

151
Gtr.

IX. Quiet

♩ = 96

Electronics

Guitar

tremelo on

6

Gtr.

pp

12

Gtr.

pp

17

Gtr.

pp

23

Gtr.

29

Gtr.

accel.

35

Gtr.

♩ = 103

38

Gtr.

42

Gtr.

51

Gtr.

Musical notation for guitar, measures 51-57. The notation is on a single staff in treble clef. It begins with a whole rest in measure 51. Measures 52-57 contain various chordal textures and melodic lines, including a triplet of eighth notes in measure 55.

58

Gtr.

mp

Musical notation for guitar, measures 58-62. The notation is on a single staff in treble clef. It starts with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic marking. The music consists of sustained chords and melodic fragments.

63

Gtr.

rall.

f

Musical notation for guitar, measures 63-68. The notation is on a single staff in treble clef. It features a *rall.* (rallentando) marking and a *f* (forte) dynamic marking. The music is characterized by long, sustained chords.

69

Gtr.

♩ = 96

dim.

Musical notation for guitar, measures 69-72. The notation is on a single staff in treble clef. It includes a tempo marking of *♩ = 96* and a *dim.* (decrescendo) marking. The music features a triplet of eighth notes in measure 69.

73

Gtr.

p

f

Musical notation for guitar, measures 73-77. The notation is on a single staff in treble clef. It starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic marking and ends with a forte (*f*) dynamic marking. A quintuplet of eighth notes is present in measure 75.

78

Gtr.

mp

f

rall. poco a poco

Musical notation for guitar, measures 78-83. The notation is on a single staff in treble clef. It features a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic marking and a forte (*f*) dynamic marking. The music is marked *rall. poco a poco* (rallentando poco a poco).

84

Gtr.

p

Musical notation for guitar, measures 84-87. The notation is on a single staff in treble clef. It starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic marking and includes triplet markings over eighth notes in measures 85 and 86.

89

Gtr.

94

Gtr.

98

Gtr.

rall. poco a poco

103

Gtr.

X. Epilogue

♩ = 130

cresc. poco a poco

Electronics

Guitar

ppp

ppp

Elec.

Gtr.

8

sustain 0 0 0

pp

Elec.

Gtr.

13

Elec.

Gtr.

17

p

21

Gtr.

p sweet

25

Gtr.

8va

29

Gtr.

(8)

33

Gtr.

36

Gtr.

rall.

pp