

Miniver Cheevy

A Satire in the Form of Variations

Low Voice
Duration: 2 min. 20 sec.

Poem by
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Music by
JOHN DUKE

Theme (♩ = 180)

Piano

VAR. I Melancholy

Min-i-ver Chee-vy, child of scorn, Grew lean— while he as-sailed the sea-sons;

He wept that he was ev-er born, And he had rea-sons.

VAR. II Sprightly (♩. 104)

Min-i-ver loved the days of old

mf

When swords were bright and steeds were prancing;

p

The vision of a warrior bold

p cresc. *f*

Would set him dancing.

mf *p* *pp*

VAR. III Dreamy (♩:40)

p Min-i-ver sighed — for what was not, And dreamed, — and rest-ed from his la - bors;

pp espressivo

poco cresc.

He dreamed of Thebes and Cam - e - lot, And Pri - am's neigh-bors.

p *pp*

VAR. IV Dolorous (♩:76)

cresc. Min-i-ver mourned the ripe re-nown That made so many a name — so fra-grant;

mp *cresc.* *f* *dim.*

p *rit.* *mf* *p*

He mourned Ro-mance, now on the town, And Art, a va-grant.

p *dim. e molto rit.* *ppp* *a tempo f* *p* *pp*

VAR. V Grandiose (♩, 112)

Min - i - ver loved the Med - i - ci,

Al - be - it he had nev - er seen one;

He would have sinned in - cess - ant - ly

Could he have been one.

f

p cresc.

p

pp

Detailed description: The score is for a grandiose variation in 4/4 time, marked with a quarter note equal to 112. It consists of four systems. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The first system begins with a vocal line starting on a whole note, followed by a piano accompaniment. The second system continues the vocal line with a piano accompaniment. The third system continues the vocal line with a piano accompaniment. The fourth system concludes the vocal line with a piano accompaniment. Dynamics include *f*, *p cresc.*, *p*, and *pp*. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4.

VAR. VI Indignant (♩=114)

Min-i-ver cursed — the com-mon-place, And eyed — a kha-ki suit with loath-ing;

simile

He missed the med-i-e-val grace Of i - - - ron cloth-ing.

p *cresc.* *f*

VAR. VII Puzzled (♩=92)

Min-i-ver scorned the gold he sought, But sore an-noyed — was he with-out it;

mf *3* *mp*

Min-i-ver thought, and thought, and thought, And thought — a-bout it.

p *3* *accel.* *p subito* *rit.* *pp*

p *accel.* *cresc.* *f* *p a tempo* *rit.* *pp*

VAR. VIII Topsy (♩ = 72)

mp
Min-i-ver Chee-vy, born too late, Scratched his head and kept on think-ing;

sempre dim. *pp*
Min-i-ver coughed, and called it fate, And kept on drink-ing.

VAR. IX Epilogue

portamento *mf*
Ah — Ah —

portamento *mp* *p* *pp*
Uh — Uh — Uh —