

# The Knife

fl/picc *flute* *f* *mf*

cl/bass cl *bass clarinet* *f* *mf*

horn *f* *mf*

2 triangles

snare

bass drum

Marceline *f* We are twen-ty cen-tu-ries old to-day,

Marie *f* We are twen-ty cen-tu-ries old to-day,

R.F. *f* Hey, lit-tle ones, where were you to mor row?

Superior Be fore, du-ring and af-ter

Asst. Sup.

Eagle

**Narrator: intoned  
the crowd in chorus.**

kbds *piano* *f*

viola *f*

cello *f*

Tempo: ♩ 60, 4/4 time signature.

7

fl/picc *poco rit*  $\downarrow$ .55

cl/bass cl *mf* *poco rit*  $\downarrow$ .55

horn *mf* *poco rit*  $\downarrow$ .55

2 triangles *poco rit*  $\downarrow$ .55

snare

bass drum

7

Marceline *poco rit*  $\downarrow$ .55  
and a lit-tle more.

Marie *poco rit*  $\downarrow$ .55  
and a lit-tle more.

R.F. *mf* *poco rit*  $\downarrow$ .55  
Hey, lit-tle ones this is the eve of the great day. Re-

Superior

Asst. Sup.

Eagle

7

kbds *mf* *poco rit*  $\downarrow$ .55

viola *poco rit*  $\downarrow$ .55

cello *poco rit*  $\downarrow$ .55

7

fl/picc *mp*

cl/bass cl *mp* *clarinet*

horn *mf*

2 triangles

snare

bass drum

Marceline

Marie

R.F. *3*  
 pent your sins and pick up the knife of su-preme vi - ci-ssi-tude pa-tience, zeal and cha - ri ty -

Superior

Asst. Sup.

Eagle

kbds

viola

cello

fl/picc *piccolo*  $\text{♩} = 60$

cl/bass cl *f*

horn *mf*  $\text{♩} = 60$

2 triangles

snare

bass drum

Marceline

Marie

R.F.

Superior

Asst. Sup.

Eagle

kbds *synth 1* *f*  $\text{♩} = 60$

viola *f*  $\text{♩} = 60$

cello *f*  $\text{♩} = 60$

17









fl/picc *pp*

cl/bass cl

horn *pp*

2 triangles

snare

bass drum

Marceline

Marie

R.F.

Superior

Asst. Sup.

Eagle

**Narrator:** That evening, perhaps by inadvertence, she broke a porcelain bowl, one of those which nightly serve the intimate needs of little girls, and was condemned to pay a fine. She paid the fine, but only after improvising a scene whereby the punishment inflicted by the Mother Superior was rendered ridiculous. She sang until midnight the "Wine of Consolations," monotonous chant of penitence sung upon a single repeated note, and got up afterward to bite the nails of all her sleeping companions.

kbds *pp*

viola *arco sul tasto* *pp*

cello *arco* *pp*



fl/picc

cl/bass cl

horn

2 triangles

snare

bass drum

Marceline

Marie

R.F.

Superior

Asst. Sup.

Eagle

Narrator: The eagle.

kbds

viola

cello

fl/picc *piccolo*

cl/bass cl *clarinet* *mf sneak in*

horn *f*

2 triangles

snare *ff*

bass drum

Marceline

Marie

R.F.

Superior

Asst. Sup.

Eagle *ff* Strike! Be - cause I can hard-ly stand and I'm com-ple-tely na ked I am God

**Spoken:** Strike! Because I can hardly stand and I'm completely naked: I am God without woman.

kbds *synth 1* *f*

viola *arco* *ff*

cello *arco* *ff*



This musical score is for a band and vocalists. It consists of the following parts:

- fl/picc**: Flute/piccolo part with sixteenth-note runs and slurs.
- cl/bass cl**: Clarinet/bass clarinet part with sustained notes.
- horn**: Horn part with sustained notes.
- 2 triangles**: Triangle part with rhythmic patterns.
- snare**: Snare drum part with rhythmic patterns.
- bass drum**: Bass drum part with rhythmic patterns.
- Vocalists**: Marceline, Marie, R.F., Superior, Asst. Sup., and Eagle. All vocal parts are currently silent, indicated by a horizontal line with a dash.
- kbds**: Keyboard part with a bass line in the left hand and a treble line in the right hand.
- viola**: Viola part, currently silent.
- cello**: Cello part, currently silent.

The score is in 4/4 time and includes dynamic markings such as *68* and *68*.

fl/picc *loco*  
74 *f*

cl/bass cl  
74 *f*

horn  
74

2 triangles  
74

snare  
74 *rim*

bass drum  
74

Marceline  
74

Marie  
74

R.F.  
74

Superior  
74

Asst. Sup.  
74

Eagle  
74

kbds  
74 *f*

viola  
74 *f*

cello  
74 *f*



85

fl/picc *f*

cl/bass cl *bass clarinet*

horn *mf*

2 triangles

snare

bass drum

Marceline

Marie

R.F.

Superior

Asst. Sup.

Eagle

85

**Narrator:** In the morning she stood by the door, at the moment when the bell rang for the little students to leave the dormitory, and holding out to each one a piece of the bowl transformed into a collection plate, and in a voice half sad, half mocking:

85

kbds

viola

cello *mf*

85



fl/picc *f* *flute* *attaca*

cl/bass cl *f* *attaca*

horn *f* *attaca*

2 triangles *attaca*

snare *attaca*

bass drum *attaca*

Marceline

Marie

R.F.

Superior

Asst. Sup.

Eagle

**Narrator and Spontanette:** "I plead,"  
she said, "the cause of right and  
justice against the adversaries of  
religion. One penny, I beg you, for  
the poor girl who broke her  
vocation. She, it is who did  
everything, before, during and after.  
The explosion of stars is not  
reserved for ticket holders."

kbds *attaca*

viola *attaca*

cello *attaca*