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The Harp Of Brandiswhiere: Harp Solo



Synopsis

(Harp). Contains the full story of the legend, beautifully illustrated by the English artist, Steve Douglas. Also includes the written music of the suite, which can be played on Celtic or pedal harp or piano.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I own a small Celtic harp and thought this book would be a nice change of pace to oversimplified Celtic tune books and overly difficult "modern classical" composers, but I quickly realized that these songs sound equally marvelous on the piano and now I much prefer to play them on keyboards. Not all harp music is interchangeable with the piano, but these songs are mostly very feasible for the task. The front of the book contains a cute invented myth (nothing genius, but still a bit cute), and the music is almost intended as a series of interludes between narrations of story sections. The songs are subtly related and it is a joy to spot the connections while playing through them. Specifically, "The Harper's Vision" is a little repetitious, but it is nonetheless such a very, very fine song that the repetitions are welcome melodic emphases (I hesitate to call it "minimalism" because that implies negative things, but the concept is roughly equivalent in this case). Sylvia Woods plays this song rather quickly in the recorded version, but I have found that it also sounds quite good as a slow and contemplative song - in fact, I think there is even MORE magic and mystery if it is played a bit on the slow side. "The Legend" and "Lament" are also strong pieces. You will be challenged by some of the hand stretches involved to play some chords, but there aren't many nasty surprises (key

changes, incidentals, chromatic notes, etc.). These take some practice to sound really polished, but they are such a delight to listen to that you won't mind drilling the extra time in. Some time signatures are a little unusual, but they are consistent (there are very few changes within songs). One word of caution: the printed size is rather small in this book.

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