

1994

# Aki's Story

Michael Mauldin

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AKI'S STORY  
for narrator and woodwind quintet

Michael Mauldin, 1994  
Story by Penny Raife  
Durant

narrator

♩ = 100

mp

ob

mf

cl

mp

hn

mp

bsn

mp

Handwritten musical score for system 9. The system consists of five staves. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The second staff has a bass clef and a key signature of one flat. The third, fourth, and fifth staves have a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The music is written in a style that appears to be a transcription of a live performance, with many notes and rests. The first staff begins with a boxed-in number '9'.

Handwritten musical score for system 13. The system consists of five staves. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The second staff has a bass clef and a key signature of one flat. The third, fourth, and fifth staves have a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The music is written in a style that appears to be a transcription of a live performance, with many notes and rests. The first staff begins with a boxed-in number '13'.

Handwritten musical score for the first system, measures 1-5. The score is written on five staves. The top staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The second staff has a bass clef. The third, fourth, and fifth staves have a key signature of one sharp (F#). The music features various note values, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. There are some handwritten annotations, such as '19' in a box above the first staff and '2' above the second staff.

Handwritten musical score for the second system, measures 6-10. The score is written on five staves. The top staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The second staff has a bass clef. The third, fourth, and fifth staves have a key signature of one sharp (F#). The music continues with various note values and rests. There are handwritten annotations, including 'mp' (mezzo-piano) and 'p' (piano) dynamics, and a box containing '124' above the third staff.



Handwritten musical score for the first system, measures 1-4. The score is written on five staves. The top staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The second staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The third staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The fourth staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The fifth staff has a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first measure contains a whole note chord of F# and C. The second measure contains a whole note chord of F# and C. The third measure contains a whole note chord of F# and C. The fourth measure contains a whole note chord of F# and C. The word "cresc." is written below the third measure. The word "f" is written below the fourth measure.

Handwritten musical score for the second system, measures 5-8. The score is written on five staves. The top staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The second staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The third staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The fourth staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The fifth staff has a bass clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first measure contains a whole note chord of F# and C. The second measure contains a whole note chord of F# and C. The third measure contains a whole note chord of F# and C. The fourth measure contains a whole note chord of F# and C. The word "mf" is written below the second measure. The word "mp" is written below the fourth measure. A box containing the number "40" is written above the fourth measure.



(Wait until opening music has stopped)

NARRATOR: Aki watched as the men checked their leather pouches and stone knives. His father pulled his fingers over the willow arrow shafts as if to straighten them once again. Then the men climbed down the Mountain and headed east and north, toward the flowing river. Aki's grandfather sat next to a large volcanic rock. With a sharp stone, he pecked at the rock's surface. Aki didn't know what his grandfather was writing. It might be the story of the hunt. It might be a map to show where they found water last summer when the rains had not yet come. Grandfather didn't mind missing the hunt as Aki did. Of course, being the recorder for the People was a very important job, one only the oldest and wisest of their clan was allowed to do.

His mother and grandmother knelt on the ground and began grinding corn with their metates. "I will be back before the sun sets," Aki told his mother. Then he slipped his bow and quiver over his shoulder, leaving the Mountain and following the stream west. Perhaps he would find a deer of his own.

(Pause for music to begin)

NARRATOR: (begin reading 5 seconds after music begins)

As Aki walked, he left no footprints. He had learned to walk gently

52



on Mother Earth, disturbing nothing. He listened as he walked. Birds  
twittered and

Handwritten musical score for the first system, featuring five staves with various musical notations including notes, rests, and accidentals.

flew away. Grasshopper sawed their autumn song. He scanned the dirt for  
prints. Aki found

Handwritten musical score for the second system, featuring five staves with various musical notations including notes, rests, and accidentals. A box containing the number "63" is visible above the first staff.

the small scampering scrapes of a kangaroo rat and the smooth slithering of a

Handwritten musical score for the first system, consisting of five staves. The notation includes various note values, rests, and dynamic markings like 'p' and 'mp'.

snake. But no deer. As Aki walked, the slope became steeper. A tall bluff

72

Handwritten musical score for the second system, consisting of five staves. The notation includes various note values, rests, and dynamic markings like 'p', 'mp', and '1p'.

7: with many black rocks hugged the horizon. Aki heard the rattled warning of a snake. He stood perfectly still,

80

barely breathing, moving only his eyes in the direction of the sound.  
The rattling stopped. Still Aki stood, waiting for the

7: snake to move on. They had no quarrel. At last he heard a soft slithering in dry grass and whispered softly to the snake, wishing him good hunting, too. Then he walked on. Around a juniper, deer tracks dented the soft mud of the streambed.

7: From the depth and size of the footprints, he knew it was a buck. He also

92

knew it had passed here not long ago. Aki followed the tracks behind a

Handwritten musical score for the first system, measures 1-4. The score is written on four staves. The first staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The second staff is in bass clef. The third staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The fourth staff is in bass clef. The music features a melody in the first and third staves, with dynamics *mf* and *mp* and a *clim* marking. The second and fourth staves contain rests.

tower of sandstone and up a steep path. The deer had run to the top of the

Handwritten musical score for the second system, measures 5-8. The score is written on four staves. The first staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The second staff is in bass clef. The third staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The fourth staff is in bass clef. The music features a melody in the first and third staves, with dynamics *mf* and *mp* and a *clim* marking. The second and fourth staves contain rests.

bluff. The boy ran silently, and at last climbed over the edge. Ahead of him,

Handwritten musical score for measures 110-114. The score is written on five staves. Measure 110 is marked with a box containing the number 110. The music features various notes, rests, and dynamic markings such as *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *p* (piano). There are also handwritten annotations like *mp* and *p* written above and below the staves.

alone and chewing the golden flowers of a rabbit bush, stood the buck.

Handwritten musical score for measures 115-119. Measure 115 is marked with a box containing the number 115. To the right of the box, the instruction "(Wait until the music stops)" is written. The score is written on five staves. The music features various notes, rests, and dynamic markings such as *mp* (mezzo-piano), *p* (piano), and *pp* (pianissimo). There are also handwritten annotations like *mp*, *p*, and *pp* written above and below the staves.

NARRATOR: (after music has stopped, begin reading with  
no musical background):

Aki stared into the deep brown eyes. Silently, he thanked the deer for his life. A buck of this size would feed his people well for more than two weeks. With movements as slow as growing, Aki slipped an arrow from his leather quiver and fitted it into his bow. He kept his eyes locked onto the buck. Then something pulled his attention away. He turned only his eyes to the west, across the vast flat lands. Dust swirled upward. Only raiders came from the west. Aki looked back at the deer. If he shot such an animal, he he would be allowed to hunt with the men. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] But if he didn't hurry and warn the others, the raiders might take all the women and children. There would be no one left when the men came back. Aki relaxed the bow. "Next time we meet, I will not let you go." The buck jumped from the sudden sound and bounded out of sight.

(Wait for music to begin)

NARRATOR: (begin reading 5 seconds after music begins):

Aki sped down the bluff. His mother would light a fire

to cook the corn meal. He had to reach her before the smoke rose. Aki ran softly against Mother Earth. He dared not leave

124

Handwritten musical notation for the first system. The treble staff contains a few notes and rests, with a handwritten 'mt' below it. The bass staff contains a continuous line of eighth and sixteenth notes.

tracks for the raiders to follow. "Grandfather!", he cried. "Mother! Raiders are coming. I saw their dust."

Handwritten musical notation for the second system. The treble staff contains a few notes and rests. The bass staff contains a continuous line of eighth and sixteenth notes.



"Where are they, Aki?" grandfather asked. The women and children gathered around him. Aki saw fear in his mother's eyes. "They are west of the bluff, less than a day"

"The men have gone hunting, and we don't know where to find them," Grandfather said. "I could follow their tracks," Aki offered.

134

"I will run after them." "No," grandfather said. "They have gone far  
already and they leave no tracks."

Handwritten musical score for the first system. It consists of five staves. The top staff contains a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The music is written in a 4/4 time signature. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The second staff has a bass clef and a key signature of one flat. The third staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The fourth staff has a bass clef and a key signature of one flat. The fifth staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The music is written in a 4/4 time signature. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The second staff has a bass clef and a key signature of one flat. The third staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The fourth staff has a bass clef and a key signature of one flat. The fifth staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat.

Aki's heart pounded and his breath came faster. He looked around at  
the people. Only he and his

Handwritten musical score for the second system. It consists of five staves. The top staff contains a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The music is written in a 4/4 time signature. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The second staff has a bass clef and a key signature of one flat. The third staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The fourth staff has a bass clef and a key signature of one flat. The fifth staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The music is written in a 4/4 time signature. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The second staff has a bass clef and a key signature of one flat. The third staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The fourth staff has a bass clef and a key signature of one flat. The fifth staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one flat.

grandfather had ever handled a bow. "We must hide", he said. "There is

Handwritten musical notation for the first system, featuring a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The notation includes a melodic line with a box labeled "148" above it, and two staves below it, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The notation is handwritten and includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and accidentals. The word "inf" is written below the second staff.

no place to hide on the Mountain," said Grandfather. Aki looked across the valley, past the river to the cottonwoods.

Handwritten musical notation for the second system, featuring a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The notation includes a melodic line with a box labeled "148" above it, and two staves below it, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The notation is handwritten and includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and accidentals. The word "inf" is written below the second staff.

156

Handwritten musical score for 'The Rose Tree'. The score is written on five staves. The first staff is for the vocal melody, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The second staff is for the piano accompaniment, starting with a bass clef. The third staff is for the guitar accompaniment, starting with a treble clef. The fourth staff is for the double bass accompaniment, starting with a bass clef. The fifth staff is for the drum set accompaniment, starting with a treble clef. The score is divided into four measures. The first measure contains the vocal melody and the piano accompaniment. The second measure contains the vocal melody and the piano accompaniment. The third measure contains the vocal melody and the piano accompaniment. The fourth measure contains the vocal melody and the piano accompaniment. The score is written in a simple, handwritten style. The tempo is marked 'Allegretto' and the time signature is '3/4'. The key signature is one flat. The score is for a song titled 'The Rose Tree'.

160

Handwritten musical score for "The Rose Tree". The score is written on five staves, divided into two systems. The first system contains measures 1-4, and the second system contains measures 5-8. The music is written in treble and bass clefs with various notes, rests, and dynamic markings like "p" and "mp". A rehearsal mark "160" is present at the start of the second system.

pots and grinding stones in a small cave hidden in a cleft of rock.  
 Everyone was ready. It looked as if the People had abandoned their homes.

Handwritten musical score for the first system. The vocal line (top staff) begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It features a melodic phrase starting on a whole note, followed by a half note, and then a quarter note. The piano accompaniment (bottom staff) consists of a steady eighth-note pattern. Dynamic markings include *p* (piano) and *mp* (mezzo-piano). The system is divided into three measures.

He led the way toward the river. "We can cross north of here," he said.  
 "There is a sandbar." He picked up his little sister and

Handwritten musical score for the second system. The vocal line continues the melody from the first system. A box containing the number "169" is visible in the upper right corner of the system. The piano accompaniment continues with the same eighth-note pattern. Dynamic markings include *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *mp* (mezzo-piano). The system is divided into three measures.

started across. The cold water rose over his feet, then to his knees.  
The women waded in, babies tied on their backs. At the end of the sandbar,

Handwritten musical score for the first system, measures 1-4. The vocal line (treble clef) includes lyrics and melodic phrases. The piano accompaniment (treble and bass clefs) features triplets and slurs. Dynamics include *mp*.

Aki stepped into water that surged to his chest. His sister cried out.  
"It's all right", said Aki. "I've got you." The People crossed the

Handwritten musical score for the second system, measures 5-8. The vocal line continues with lyrics. The piano accompaniment includes triplets and slurs. A measure number '177' is written in a box above measure 6. Dynamics include *mp*.

7. river and hid among the rocks and willows along the riverbank. Aki left them and retraced their path. They knew how to walk softly on Mother Earth.

181

He did not have to erase any tracks. Then he ran south of the Mountain and tramped heavily, leaving his prints in the soft sand. Forward, then

189

backward, Aki walked, making many tracks heading south. Then he hid behind a rock below the Mountain.

(Wait for music to end)



NARRATOR: (after music has stopped, begin reading with no musical background:

A large group who did not care to walk softly kicked up a dust cloud as they came over the bluff. Aki could smell the dust they disturbed. There were more men than Aki had fingers on two hands. The raiders marched down the slope from the bluff to the base of the Mountain. There, they climbed to the top. Aki stiffened, remaining as still as the rock. He hoped they did not find anything to make them suspect the People were hiding. Fear rattled in Aki's chest, squeezing his breath.

As night swallowed up the sun, the glow of a fire shone over the Mountain. Aki heard talk but did not understand the words. He returned to the People hiding along the river. "It will be all right for you to sleep here," he said. "I will stay awake and watch. The raiders are staying on the Mountain tonight." He watched the fire's glow fade as the moon rose higher, round and full, promising good hunting. Aki hoped it meant good hunting only for his People, not for the raiders. His eyes felt heavy, but he did not let them close.

(Wait for entire musical interlude to begin and end)

Handwritten musical score for a narrator's reading. The score is written on five staves. The first staff is a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 3/4. The tempo is marked "1 = 100" and "200". The first staff contains a series of notes, including a half note, a quarter note, and a half note, followed by a series of eighth notes. The second staff is a bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 3/4. It contains a series of notes, including a half note, a quarter note, and a half note, followed by a series of eighth notes. The third staff is a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 3/4. It contains a series of notes, including a half note, a quarter note, and a half note, followed by a series of eighth notes. The fourth staff is a bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 3/4. It contains a series of notes, including a half note, a quarter note, and a half note, followed by a series of eighth notes. The fifth staff is a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a time signature of 3/4. It contains a series of notes, including a half note, a quarter note, and a half note, followed by a series of eighth notes. The score is marked with "mf" (mezzo-forte) and "mp" (mezzo-piano) dynamics. The tempo is marked "1 = 100" and "200".

Handwritten musical score for the first system, measures 208-211. The notation includes treble and bass staves with various notes, rests, and dynamic markings such as *mf* and *mp*. A box containing the number 208 is present above the first staff.

Handwritten musical score for the second system, measures 212-215. The notation includes treble and bass staves with various notes, rests, and dynamic markings such as *mf* and *mp*. A box containing the number 212 is present above the first staff.

NARRATOR: (After musical interlude has ended, begin reading with  
no musical background):

In the morning, one of the raiders splashed into the river, only a stone's throw from the People. He drank from the cool water and looked around. Aki crouched behind a bush, holding his breath until his chest throbbed. The raider seemed to look directly at him, then filled a buffalo bladder with water and tied it to the strap around his middle. He started toward the east bank of the river, toward the People.

A sudden cry split the morning stillness.

(Wait for music to begin)

220

NARRATOR: (Begin reading 5 seconds after music begins):

The man turned in the direction of the noise. Aki let his breath go. Then

130  
220

Handwritten musical score for the first section, measures 220-224. The score is written on five staves. The first two staves are empty, likely for piano introduction. The third staff contains a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The fourth and fifth staves contain a melody and accompaniment respectively. The tempo is marked 130 and 220. The dynamics are marked mp (mezzo-piano).

he slithered along the riverbank. He parted some weeds and looked across.  
The man joined the others grouped around the tracks Aki had

225

Handwritten musical score for the second section, measures 225-229. The score is written on five staves. The first two staves are empty, likely for piano introduction. The third staff contains a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The fourth and fifth staves contain a melody and accompaniment respectively. The tempo is marked 225. The dynamics are marked mp (mezzo-piano).

made on the far side. They whooped, pointed south, and started off.  
Aki followed from the east side of the riverbank. He followed until

Handwritten musical notation for the first system, consisting of three staves. The notation includes various notes, rests, and dynamic markings, with some notes being beamed together.

the sun was directly over his head. Then he watched from the top of a  
hill, hidden by a juniper. The dust cloud continued south.

Handwritten musical notation for the second system, starting with a measure number 232 in a box. The notation includes various notes, rests, and dynamic markings, with some notes being beamed together.

Handwritten musical notation for a solo section, marked "solo" and "mf". The notation includes various notes and rests.

Aki hurried back to tell the people the raiders were gone. Just before dark, they walked back to the Mountain, afraid of what they

might find. Rocks were strewn around the mountaintop outside the stone houses. A few broken pots lay with sharp edges pointing to the

240

sky. Aki checked the cleft in the rock. Nothing had been disturbed.

Handwritten musical score for the first system. The score is written on five staves. The first staff contains the lyrics. The second staff has a handwritten box with the number "246". The third and fourth staves contain handwritten musical notation. The fifth staff is empty. The notation includes various notes, rests, and dynamic markings such as "mf" and "f".

He carried the pots back up the mountain. Women scurried to reclaim their seeds. Grandfather told the women not to start a fire for three

Handwritten musical score for the second system. The score is written on five staves. The first staff contains the lyrics. The second and third staves contain handwritten musical notation. The fourth and fifth staves contain handwritten musical notation, including a section marked "solo" and "(mf)". The notation includes various notes, rests, and dynamic markings.

days, just in case the raiders were watching. Aki kept a lookout in all

254

Handwritten musical score for measures 254-257. The score is written on four staves. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The second staff has a bass clef. The third staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The fourth staff has a bass clef. The music includes various notes, rests, and dynamic markings such as *mp* and *sim.*

directions. Ducks flew overhead in huge arrows pointing south. His heart sang when he saw the hunting party coming from the north late

258

Handwritten musical score for measures 258-261. The score is written on four staves. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The second staff has a bass clef. The third staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The fourth staff has a bass clef. The music includes various notes, rests, and dynamic markings such as *p* and *mp*.



(Wait for music to end)

one evening.

NARRATOR: (After music has stopped, begin reading with no musical background):

The men carried several deer carcasses tied to poles. None of the deer were as large as the buck Aki had seen. The men gathered around Grandfather to tell their hunting tales. In the glow of the fire, Grandfather listened and nodded. Then he told the story of the raiders. "You would have brought plenty of meat for only yourselves if Aki had not been with us." The men stared at Aki, standing in his mother's doorway. His father motioned for Aki to join the circle. "I see you have started a new carving, Grandfather," Father said. "Is it about the hunt?" "No," answered Grandfather. "It is more important than a hunt. We must always remember Aki's bravery and how he helped his people survive." In the morning before the sun peeked over the eastern mountains, Aki ran his hand lightly over Grandfather's pecking. His story would be told in the rock forever.

(end narration)

arranger 267

267 = 100

mp

mf

mp

mp

mp



1275

1279

1279

1279

Handwritten musical score, first system. The score is written on five staves. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The second staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The third staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The fourth staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The fifth staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings. There are two boxed numbers "285" in the first staff.

Handwritten musical score, second system. The score is written on five staves. The first staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The second staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The third staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The fourth staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The fifth staff has a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings.