

### BEGINNING STRING ORCHESTRA

# CHINESE STRING FANTASY

TRADITIONAL
Arranged by KEVIN MIXON (ASCAP)

#### INSTRUMENTATION

- Conductor
- 8 Ist Violin
- 8 2nd Violin
- 5 3rd Violin (Viola T.C.)
- 5 Viola
- 5 Cello
- 5 String Bass
- I Piano Accompaniment



The melodic material in this arrangement was taken from two popular Chinese folk songs. The first ("Little Rabbit") is a children's song and the second ("Shepherd Song") is credited to the Kazak people, who reside in the Xinjiang region of northwestern China.

In Chinese music, harmony is not as prominent as it may be in the music of Western cultures. However, attention to individual pitches is quite important. Ornaments and articulations that require advanced technical skill are often used. In this arrangement, I have included simple ornaments and articulations suggestive of Chinese string instruments: glissandi, common when playing the erhu, a two-stringed, bowed instrument; unmeasured tremolo typical in biwa, or lute, playing; and intermittent pizzicato to suggest plucked instruments such as the zheng or zither. Playing recordings of Chinese string instrument performances will help further familiarize students with both the instruments and the playing techniques suggested in this arrangement.

It is my hope that students will advance in technical development and also gain experience with this rich folk music.

#### NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

All Belwin string parts have been carefully bowed and fingered appropriately by level. The Yellow Very Beginning series includes many bowings as well as reminder fingerings for first-time readers. The Red Beginning series includes frequent bowings to assist younger players. Fingerings for altered pitches are often marked. The Green Intermediate series includes appropriately placed bowings for middle-level students. Fingerings and positions are marked for notes beyond first position. The Blue Concert series includes bowings appropriate for the experienced high school player. Fingerings and position markings are indicated for difficult passages.

Rof Rhillips
Belwin/Pop String Editor

**Please note**: Our band and orchestra music is now being collated by an automatic high-speed system. The enclosed parts are now sorted by page count, rather than score order. We hope this will not present any difficulty for you in distributing the parts. Thank you for your understanding.



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