URANUS, THE MAGICIAN

Mysterious and distant
A genius, a magician
Aggressive and all-powerful
A spectacular apparition

Uranus is a fascinating but sometimes fearsome god. His wife was Gaia, the mother of the Earth, and together they were the parents of the one-eyed giant, Cyclops, and the Titans, who were gigantic gods, full of power. The most famous is Prometheus, who first gave fire to humans.

Some say Uranus is the oldest god of all. The God of the Sky, his birth was shrouded in mystery, and he was in command of elemental forces, and creator of the heavens, which is surely a kind of magic. Imagine creating a universe!

In astrology, the planet Uranus symbolises rebellion, independence and surprise!





CHARACTERS WITH LONG EARS

Oh no, I'm sorry, this is tricky
I don't know what to say!
I think the man who wrote the music
Liked to joke and play.

The sounds you'll hear are very odd
Let's see what next appears
As we listen to the sounds
Of characters with... long ears!



And now here's someone very shy
Hiding in the trees
His song is like an echo
Carried on the breeze.

He calls out here, he calls out there
And so repeats his song
His voice so clear, he sounds so near
But when you look... he's gone!

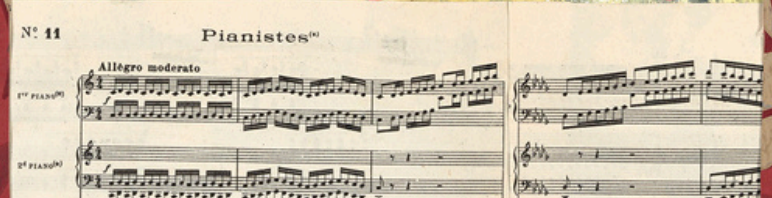
THE CUCKOO IN THE DEPTH OF THE WOOD

PIANISTS

Now it's time to introduce
The pianists in the band
How they play so badly
I just don't understand!

Up and down the scales they go
They fill my heart with dread
Louder, louder, on they go
It's enough to wake the dead!





FOSSILS



Far below us, deep in rocks
Lie creatures ancient, old
Long extinct and hard to find
Completely dead and cold.

Here lie monsters, sleeping giants
Riddles made of bone
Jumbled up beneath the ground
And petrified in stone.

AUTUMN

The air is cooler; Summer's gone
Trees turn gold, glowing bright
The harvesters begin their work
Leaves fall in the Autumn light.

Fruits glowed red, olives ripened, green and black, with grapes sweet for the picking. It was still hot, but there was a gentle breeze as Summer slipped into Autumn.

A walk in the country was a pleasure now. The workers rose with the sun, before it got too hot, gathering grapes from vines and carrying them to huge vats for treading. Antonio loved to watch them stamping the grapes with their bare feet, in a steady rhythm – like another kind of music. It was hard work, but soon the grape juice was collected, ready to make wine.





The princess heard the distant bells and felt for the key in her pocket. "Oh, the gates... I forgot!" she cried. "I must return to Ys!"

The king, meanwhile, had leaped upon his horse and galloped out into the wild stormy sea to find his daughter. The wind whipped sea-foam into his eyes as the waves grew higher and higher.

Then he saw her, reaching out to him.

"I'm sorry, Father!" she cried.

But a great wave carried her away, and she was gone. The soft sands shifted, towers began to lean and twist, and by the time the king had galloped to safety, the great city of Ys had been swallowed up by the sea.

It was a long way to the college and after two days of walking, Yingtai reached a crossroads. There, she saw a handsome young boy about her age.

"Excuse me," said Yingtai, with her head bowed. "Which is the road to the college?"

"I'm going there myself!" said the boy. "I am Liang Shanbo. Allow me to show you the way."

On the journey, they talked without pause.

"I was born on the seventh day of the seventh moon," said Shanbo. "I am seventeen years old."

"I was born on the same day of the same moon," said Yingtai. "A year after you."

"Then we are almost brothers!" said Shanbo.

Yingtai blushed and smiled. Shanbo felt a strange warmth in his heart for this younger boy.

One night, under the moon, they made a solemn promise – they became sworn-brothers, inseparable and undividable.

