

# Her Spice Shelf

Susan Kinsolving

Sanford Dole

From "The White Eyelash" published by Grove Press, New York, 2003. Used by permission.

(b. 1955)

♩ = 96

♩ = 96

*mf*

5

*mf*

Odd, this first date, left to wait, a

*p*

9

guest in her kitch - en. He stared at her

*mf*

13

spice shelf, won-der-ing at him-self.

17

All - spice, ar-row-root and

20

car - da-mom, her bou-quet gar - ni in earth-en-ware:

23

each es-sence held him there.

26

Cin-na-mon, cas-si-a, chi - li pep - pers

29

ranked by "heat un-it" de-grees. Re-ci-pes for al-che-mies?

32

Rose-ma-ry, saf-ron, sage, sea salt, and sa-vo-ry, his thoughts grew more

36

head - y. She smiled. "Sup-per's

rall. . . . mp

rall. . . . .

p

39 **a tempo** (♩ = 96)

read - y."

**a tempo** (♩ = 96)

*mp*

43 *mf*

Pi-quant and poin-quant, she sea-soned their chat, then laughed:

*secco (laughing)*

46

"How ab - surd, how ab - surd! I'm

49

**rall.** . . . . . **a tempo** ♩ = 96

Gin-ger and you're Herb."

**rall.** . . . . . **a tempo** ♩ = 96

52

He rel - ished each ex - tract, root, seed,

55

leaf, and pow - der.

rall. . . . .

rall. . . . .

58 slower ♩ = 84

*p* Af-ter her cream of tar-tar, *mp* af-ter her cream of tar-tar,

*p* *mp*

accel. . . . . a tempo ♩ = 96

62

*mf* af-ter her cream of tar-tar, *f* he knew no one smar-ter.

accel. . . . . a tempo ♩ = 96

*mf* *f*

67

Musical score for measures 67-68. The vocal line is silent. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line in the left hand and a sixteenth-note arpeggiated pattern in the right hand. A dynamic marking of *p* is present at the start of measure 68.

69

Musical score for measures 69-71. The vocal line begins in measure 69 with the lyrics "Through a grind of tar - ra-gon,". The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic patterns. A dynamic marking of *mp* is placed above the vocal line in measure 69 and below the piano part in measure 71.

72

Musical score for measures 72-73. The vocal line continues with the lyrics "tur - mer-ic, thyme and fate,". The piano accompaniment features a more complex arpeggiated pattern in the right hand. A dynamic marking of *mp* is present in measure 73.

74

Musical score for measures 74-76. The vocal line begins in measure 74 with the lyrics "his mind kept on mill - ing...". The piano accompaniment features a dense, continuous arpeggiated texture in both hands. A dynamic marking of *mf* is placed above the vocal line in measure 74.

77

mill - ing... Her zest, her

80

zest, her zest was too

82

thrill - ing.

84

rit. . . . . mp  
As

87 **slower** ♩ = 84

if by star an - ise, his fu - ture felt guid - ed. He

**slower** ♩ = 84

*mp*

91

**rall. . . a tempo** ♩ = 96

saw his lost li - bi - do deep in her ja - la - pe - ño.

**rall. . . a tempo** ♩ = 96

*mf* *mp*

95

He said,

*f* *mf*

98

"Some - thing's chang - ing. My taste buds seem new."

*f*



100

She laughed. "You're a flirt. Just eat your just des-

103

sert." She'd made a con-coc-tion of

106

mo - cha cream, va - nil - la bean, and a dash of mace.

109

Soon his heart be - gan to race,

112

soon his heart be - gan to race,

*cresc.*

8<sup>va</sup>

114 *f.* **rall.** . . . . .

soon be - gan to race. **rall.** . . . . .

8<sup>va</sup>

*ff*

117 - **a tempo** ♩ = 96

**a tempo** ♩ = 96

*mp*

121 *mf*

With the last cream-y bite, with the last cream-y bite, the

*legato (smooth and seductive)*

*p*

125

mo - ment seemed right. — It was his hun - gry

129

dream to kiss the chef\_ de cui - sine.

133

They\_ were\_ soon\_ off to

137

*cresc.*

bed, soon off to bed, off to bed, and days

*rall.* . . . . . *a tempo* ♩ = 96

141

*f*

la-ter they were wed. But Herb still

*rall.* . . . . . *a tempo* ♩ = 96

*mf*

145

pays a price for lov - ing her

147

*rit.* . . . . .

and her spice.

*rit.* . . . . .

150 **slower** ♩ = 84

*mp* With-out a - ny ques-tion, *mf* with - out a - ny\_\_

**slower** ♩ = 84

*p*

153 *f*

ques-tion, with-out\_\_ a - ny ques-tion he

*mf*

156 **rall.** . . . . **a tempo** ♩ = 96

has\_\_ in - di - ges-tion.

**rall.** . . . . **a tempo** ♩ = 96

159

*f*