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String Quartet No. Who Cares

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**Author**

Adams, Evan O.

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# String Quartet No. Who Cares

(2019)

Evan O. Adams


Instrumentation:


Violin 1  
Violin 2  
Viola  
Cello

Duration:

Approx. 7'

Notes for Performers:

 - Straight line indicates glissando; should take place over the entirety of the notated duration.

 - triangle notehead indicates the highest manageable pitch.

Program Note:

This is a program note. This is my chance, as the composer, to try and win you over before/after you've heard the piece. If I know it's not great, I can use this time to make up some bullshit artsy stuff that justifies it after the fact. *It sounded like that on purpose*, The Artist says. Alternatively, if I know it's a banger, I can use this time to stroke my own ego and tell you all about the cool and interesting musical, rhetorical, and narrative devices I so masterfully crafted and interweaved to create this divine artistic statement. Perhaps if I am daft and pretentious, I can do a healthy combo of both and use lots of words to marvelously describe my mediocre work while completely oblivious to its inadequacy. Either way, I am conflicted about the best approach to use in this space so I will say this: This is a string quartet. I wrote it, and the performers are fan-fucking-tastic. Everything else is up to you.

*(clean version)*

This is a program note. This is my chance, as the composer, to try and win you over before/after you've heard the piece. If I know it's not great, I can use this time to make up some esoteric artsy stuff that justifies it after the fact. *It sounded like that on purpose*, The Artist says. Alternatively, if I know it's a banger, I can use this time to stroke my own ego and tell you all about the cool and interesting musical, rhetorical, and narrative devices I so masterfully crafted and interweaved to create this divine artistic statement. Perhaps if I am daft and pretentious, I can do a healthy combo of both and use lots of words to marvelously describe my mediocre work while completely oblivious to its inadequacy. Either way, I am conflicted about the best approach to use in this space so I will say this: This is a string quartet. I wrote it, and the performers are insanely good at playing it. Everything else is up to you.

# String Quartet No. Who Cares

Evan O. Adams

Angry-ish (♩ = 100)

Musical score for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Cello, measures 1-4. The score is in 3/4 time. Violin I and Violin II parts are mostly rests. Viola part starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic and plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. Cello part is mostly rests.

5

Musical score for Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Cello, measures 5-7. The score is in 3/4 time. Violin I and Violin II parts enter in measure 5 with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Viola part continues with a rhythmic pattern. Cello part enters in measure 5 with a forte (*f*) dynamic. In measure 7, the Viola part has a piano (*p*) dynamic marking.

8 9

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*f* *p* *f*

12 13

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

17

Musical score for measures 16-19. The score is for four instruments: Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.).

- Measure 16:** Vln. I has a melodic line with a slur. Vln. II has eighth notes. Vla. has eighth notes. Vc. has chords with eighth notes.
- Measure 17:** Vln. I has a rest. Vln. II has eighth notes. Vla. has eighth notes. Vc. has chords with eighth notes.
- Measure 18:** Vln. I has a rest. Vln. II has eighth notes. Vla. has eighth notes. Vc. has chords with eighth notes.
- Measure 19:** Vln. I has a melodic line with a slur. Vln. II has eighth notes. Vla. has eighth notes. Vc. has chords with eighth notes.

Time signatures: 2/4, 7/16, 2/4, 6/16.

22

Musical score for measures 20-23. The score is for four instruments: Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.).

- Measure 20:** Vln. I has a melodic line with a slur. Vln. II has eighth notes. Vla. has eighth notes. Vc. has chords with eighth notes.
- Measure 21:** Vln. I has a melodic line with a slur. Vln. II has eighth notes. Vla. has eighth notes. Vc. has chords with eighth notes.
- Measure 22:** Vln. I has a melodic line with a slur. Vln. II has eighth notes. Vla. has eighth notes. Vc. has chords with eighth notes.
- Measure 23:** Vln. I has a melodic line with a slur. Vln. II has eighth notes. Vla. has eighth notes. Vc. has chords with eighth notes.

Time signatures: 6/16, 7/16, 8/8, 4/4.

Dynamic markings: *mp*, *f*.

23 25

Vln. I  
Vln. II  
Vla.  
Vc.

26

*"high art"* *not "high art"* *not "high art"*

*"high art"* *not "high art"* *not "high art"*

*"high art"* *not "high art"* *not "high art"*

*"high art"* *not "high art"* *not "high art"*

*pizz.* *arco*

Vln. I  
Vln. II  
Vla.  
Vc.

30

32

Musical score for measures 30-32. The score is for four instruments: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Violoncello. Measures 30 and 31 are in 3/4 time, and measure 32 is in 4/4 time. Dynamics include *mp* and *f*.

33

Musical score for measures 33-35. The score is for four instruments: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Violoncello. Measures 33 and 34 are in 3/4 time, and measure 35 is in 4/4 time. Dynamics include *mp* and *f*.



36

35

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*mp* *f* *p* *cresc.*

38

37

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*ff*

40

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

44

45

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*mf*

49

48

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*sfz*

*mf*

53

52

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*f*

*mf*

56 58 *aggressive*

Vln. I *f*

Vln. II *sfz*

Vla. *sfz* *chorale-ish* *mf*

Vc. *sfz*

60 62

Vln. I *mf*

Vln. II *mf* *chorale-ish*

Vla. *mf* *chorale-ish*

Vc. *mf* *chorale-ish*

64 66

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

68 71

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*mp*

*not chorale-ish*

*sfz*

*mp*

*not chorale-ish*

*mp*

*lyrical*

*sfz*

*f*

72

Vln. I  
 Vln. II  
 Vla.  
 Vc.

*sfz* *p* *mf* *sfz*  
*sfz* *p* *mf* *sfz*  
*sfz* *p* *mf* *sfz*  
*sfz* *f* *sfz*

*not lyrical* *lyrical* *not lyrical*

76

Vln. I  
 Vln. II  
 Vla.  
 Vc.

*p cresc.* *p cresc.* *p cresc.*  
*f*

*lyrical*

79

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*not lyrical*

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

82

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*mf*

*mf*

*sfz*

*sfz*

*sfz*

*sfz*

86

Musical score for measures 86-89, featuring four staves: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., and Vc. The score includes dynamic markings such as *mf* and *f*, and a triplet in the Vln. I part.

Measures 86-89 are in 2/4 time. Vln. I has a whole rest in measures 86-88 and enters in measure 89 with a quarter note G4, followed by a triplet of quarter notes (A4, B4, A4) in measure 90. Vln. II plays eighth notes in pairs. Vla. and Vc. play eighth notes in pairs. Dynamics are *mf* for Vln. II, Vla., and Vc., and *f* for Vln. I in measure 89.

90

Musical score for measures 90-93, featuring four staves: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., and Vc. The score includes dynamic markings such as *sfz*.

Measures 90-93 are in 3/4 time. Vln. I and Vln. II play eighth notes in pairs with accents and *sfz* markings. Vla. and Vc. play eighth notes in pairs with accents. Vln. I has a sharp sign in measure 90 and a flat sign in measure 91. Vln. II has a flat sign in measure 91.



93

Musical score for measures 93-96, featuring Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., and Vc. The score includes dynamic markings such as *sfz* and complex rhythmic patterns with time signatures 2/4, 6+4/16, and 2/4.

96

Musical score for measures 96-100, featuring Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., and Vc. The score includes dynamic markings such as *pizz.*, *arco*, and *pizz.*, and complex rhythmic patterns with time signatures 2/4, 9/16, 12/16, and 9/16.

101

Light

100

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

arco

pizz.

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

pizz.

pizz.

pizz.

105

104

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

arco

pizz.

arco

*p*

*mf*

*p*

*f*

arco

pizz.

arco

*p*

*mf*

*p*

*f*

arco

pizz.

arco

*f*

*f*

*f*

107

Musical score for measures 107-110, featuring four staves: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., and Vc. The score is in 3/4 time and includes dynamic markings (*mf*) and articulation (*pizz.*).

**Vln. I:** Treble clef, playing eighth-note patterns with accents and rests.

**Vln. II:** Treble clef, starting with a *pizz.* marking and *mf* dynamic, playing eighth-note patterns.

**Vla.:** Bass clef, starting with a *pizz.* marking and *mf* dynamic, playing eighth-note patterns.

**Vc.:** Bass clef, starting with a *pizz.* marking and *mf* dynamic, playing eighth-note patterns.

111

Musical score for measures 111-114, featuring four staves: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., and Vc. The score continues the eighth-note patterns from the previous section.

**Vln. I:** Treble clef, playing eighth-note patterns with accents.

**Vln. II:** Treble clef, playing eighth-note patterns.

**Vla.:** Bass clef, playing eighth-note patterns.

**Vc.:** Bass clef, playing eighth-note patterns.

115

Musical score for measures 115-118, featuring four staves: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., and Vc. The score is divided into three measures. Measure 115 is marked 'jazzy'. Measure 116 is marked 'not jazzy'. Measure 117 is marked 'jazzy'. Measure 118 is marked 'jazzy'. Dynamics include *f* and *mf*. The Vln. II staff has a sharp sign above the first measure of the 'not jazzy' section.

Musical score for measures 119-122, featuring four staves: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., and Vc. The score is divided into four measures. Measure 119 is marked 'not jazzy'. Measure 120 is marked 'not jazzy'. Measure 121 is marked 'not jazzy'. Measure 122 is marked 'jazzy'. Dynamics include *mf*. The Vln. II staff has a sharp sign above the first measure of the 'not jazzy' section.

123

Musical score for measures 123-126, featuring four staves: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., and Vc. The score is written in treble clef for the violins and bass clef for the viola and cello. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The Vln. I part has a melodic line with eighth notes and quarter notes. The Vln. II part has a similar melodic line. The Vla. and Vc. parts have a rhythmic accompaniment of quarter notes and rests.

127

Musical score for measures 127-130, featuring four staves: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., and Vc. The score is written in treble clef for the violins and bass clef for the viola and cello. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The Vln. I part has a melodic line with eighth notes and quarter notes. The Vln. II part has a similar melodic line. The Vla. and Vc. parts have a rhythmic accompaniment of quarter notes and rests.

131

Musical score for measures 131-134. The score is for a string quartet, featuring four staves: Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.).

- Vln. I:** Treble clef, playing a continuous eighth-note pattern.
- Vln. II:** Treble clef, playing a continuous eighth-note pattern.
- Vla.:** Bass clef, marked *arco* and *mp*. It plays a melodic line with a key signature change from one sharp to one flat.
- Vc.:** Bass clef, marked *arco* and *mp*. It plays a melodic line with a key signature change from one sharp to one flat.

135

Musical score for measures 135-138. The score is for a string quartet, featuring four staves: Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.).

- Vln. I:** Treble clef, playing a continuous eighth-note pattern.
- Vln. II:** Treble clef, playing a continuous eighth-note pattern.
- Vla.:** Bass clef, playing a melodic line that concludes with a long note in the final measure.
- Vc.:** Bass clef, playing a melodic line that concludes with a long note in the final measure.

139

Musical score for measures 139-142, featuring four staves: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., and Vc. The score is in 3/4 time. Measures 139-141 show the first three instruments (Vln. I, Vln. II, and Vla.) playing chords and moving lines, while the Vc. part is mostly rests. In measure 142, all four instruments play. The Vln. I and Vln. II parts are marked with a forte *f* dynamic. The Vla. and Vc. parts are marked *pizz.* (pizzicato).

143

Musical score for measures 143-146, featuring four staves: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., and Vc. The score is in 3/4 time. Measures 143-145 show the first three instruments (Vln. I, Vln. II, and Vla.) playing chords and moving lines, while the Vc. part is mostly rests. In measure 146, all four instruments play. The Vln. I and Vln. II parts are marked *arco* (arco). The Vla. and Vc. parts are marked *arco* and include accents (>).

147

Musical score for measures 146 and 147. The score is for four parts: Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.).

- Measure 146:** Vln. I and Vln. II play chords with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Vln. I has a slur over the first two notes. Vln. II has a slur over the first two notes. Vla. and Vc. play eighth-note patterns with accents (>).
- Measure 147:** Vln. I and Vln. II play sustained notes with a fermata. Vln. I has a slur over the first note. Vln. II has a slur over the first note. Vla. and Vc. continue with eighth-note patterns with accents (>).

Musical score for measures 148 and 149. The score is for four parts: Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.).

- Measure 148:** Vln. I has a fermata on the first note. Vln. II, Vla., and Vc. play eighth-note patterns with accents (>).
- Measure 149:** Vln. I, Vln. II, and Vla. play eighth-note patterns with accents (>). Vc. continues with eighth-note patterns with accents (>).

*p*



Musical score for measures 150-152, featuring four staves: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., and Vc. The score includes dynamic markings such as *p* and accents (>). The Vln. I and Vln. II parts have a crescendo leading to *p*. The Vln. I part has a sharp sign (#) above the staff in measures 150 and 151. The Vln. II part has a flat sign (b) above the staff in measure 152. The Vla. and Vc. parts have a *p* marking in measure 150.

Musical score for measures 152-154, featuring four staves: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., and Vc. The score includes a measure number box containing 153. The Vln. I part has a sharp sign (#) above the staff in measure 152. The Vln. II part has a flat sign (b) above the staff in measures 153 and 154. The Vln. I and Vln. II parts have a 9/16 time signature in measure 153. The Vln. I part has a 3/4 time signature in measure 154. The Vln. II part has a 3/4 time signature in measure 154. The Vla. and Vc. parts have a 4/4 time signature in measure 153 and a 3/4 time signature in measure 154.

155

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

158

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*cresc.*

*cresc.*

*cresc.*

162 *molto rit.*

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*fff*

168 **OBNOXIOUS**  
*a tempo*

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

172

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

175

Disoriented

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*mp*

*f*

*mp*

*f*

*mp*

*f*

*mp*

*f*

180

Angry-ish

177

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*f*

*f*

*f*

*f*

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 177 through 180. It features four staves: Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.). The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). Measure 177 shows active eighth-note patterns in all parts. Measure 178 continues with similar activity. Measure 179 has rests for the Violin I and II parts, while the Viola and Cello continue. Measure 180 features a forte (*f*) dynamic for all instruments, with the Violin I and II parts playing chords and the Viola and Cello playing eighth-note patterns.

183

181

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*p*

*f*

*p*

*f*

$\frac{4}{4}$

$\frac{3}{4}$

$\frac{3}{4}$

$\frac{3}{4}$

Detailed description: This block contains the musical score for measures 181 through 184. It features the same four staves as the previous block. Measure 181 has rests for Vln. I and Vc. Measure 182 is marked with a 4/4 time signature and features a piano (*p*) dynamic for the Viola and a forte (*f*) dynamic for the other parts. Measure 183 is marked with a 3/4 time signature and features a piano (*p*) dynamic for the Viola and a forte (*f*) dynamic for the other parts. Measure 184 is marked with a 3/4 time signature and features a forte (*f*) dynamic for all parts. The score includes various rests and rhythmic patterns across the measures.

185

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*mf*

190

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*mf*

193

Musical score for measures 193-195, featuring four staves: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., and Vc. The score is in 3/4 time. Vln. I has a melodic line with slurs and a flat. Vln. II has a rhythmic pattern with slurs and a flat. Vla. has a melodic line with slurs and a flat. Vc. has a rhythmic pattern with slurs and a flat.

Musical score for measures 196-198, featuring four staves: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., and Vc. The score is in 3/4 time. Vln. I has a melodic line with slurs and a flat. Vln. II has a rhythmic pattern with slurs and a flat. Vla. has a melodic line with slurs and a flat. Vc. has a rhythmic pattern with slurs and a flat. The score includes time signature changes from 4/4 to 3/4.

198

Musical score for measures 198-200, featuring four staves: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., and Vc. The music is in 3/4 time, changing to 5/4 time at measure 200. The dynamic marking is *ff*. The Vc. part includes a 15<sup>ma</sup> (15th fret) marking and an (open C) marking.

Musical score for measures 201-204, featuring four staves: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., and Vc. The music is in 4/4 time, changing to 7/16 time at measure 203, and back to 4/4 time at measure 204. The dynamic marking is *ff*. The Vc. part includes a 15<sup>ma</sup> (15th fret) marking and an (open G) marking. The Vln. I part includes an 8<sup>va</sup> (8va) marking.



206

*rit.*

205

Musical score for measures 205-208. The score is for a string quartet with parts for Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.). The music is in 3/4 time and features a *rit.* (ritardando) marking. The first measure (205) starts with a treble clef and a 3/8 time signature. The second measure (206) changes to a 4/4 time signature. The final measure (208) changes to a 3/4 time signature. The Vln. I part has a fermata over the final note. The Vc. part includes an 8va marking below the staff.

209

### Angrily Delightful

*a tempo*

*f*

*a tempo*

*f*

*a tempo*

*f*

*a tempo*

*f*

Musical score for the section 'Angrily Delightful', measures 209-212. The score is for a string quartet with parts for Violin I (Vln. I), Violin II (Vln. II), Viola (Vla.), and Violoncello (Vc.). The music is in 3/4 time and features a *f* (forte) dynamic and an *a tempo* marking. The first measure (209) starts with a treble clef and a 3/4 time signature. The second measure (210) changes to a 2/4 time signature. The final measure (212) changes to a 3/4 time signature. The Vln. I part has a fermata over the final note.

215

213

Musical score for measures 213-215, featuring four staves: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., and Vc. The score is written in treble clef for the violins and bass clef for the viola and cello. The time signature changes from 2/4 to 3/4 and back to 2/4. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The Vln. I part starts with a whole note G4, followed by a half note G4 in 2/4, and then a half note G4 in 3/4. The Vln. II part features eighth-note chords in 2/4 and quarter-note chords in 3/4. The Vla. part has eighth-note chords in 2/4 and quarter-note chords in 3/4. The Vc. part has eighth-note chords in 2/4 and quarter-note chords in 3/4.

218

Musical score for measures 218-221, featuring four staves: Vln. I, Vln. II, Vla., and Vc. The score is written in treble clef for the violins and bass clef for the viola and cello. The time signature changes from 3/4 to 2/4 and back to 3/4. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The Vln. I part has eighth-note chords in 3/4, quarter-note chords in 2/4, and eighth-note chords in 3/4. The Vln. II part has eighth-note chords in 3/4, quarter-note chords in 2/4, and eighth-note chords in 3/4. The Vla. part has eighth-note chords in 3/4, quarter-note chords in 2/4, and eighth-note chords in 3/4. The Vc. part has eighth-note chords in 3/4, quarter-note chords in 2/4, and eighth-note chords in 3/4.

224

222

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

227

226

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

229

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 229 through 232. Measure 229 is in 6/16 time with a key signature of one flat. Measures 230 and 231 are in 3/4 time. Measure 232 is in 3/4 time with a key signature change to two sharps. The instruments are Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Violoncello. The score includes various rhythmic patterns, accidentals (flats and sharps), and dynamic markings.

233

Vln. I

Vln. II

Vla.

Vc.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 233 through 236. Measure 233 is in 2/4 time with a key signature of one flat. Measures 234 and 235 are in 3/4 time. Measure 236 is in 3/4 time with a key signature change to two sharps. The instruments are Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Violoncello. The score includes various rhythmic patterns, accidentals (flats and sharps), and dynamic markings.