

Nutcracker Suite

for string quartet

7. Dance of the Merlitons

Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky

(1840-1893)

Moderato assai

The musical score is arranged for four string instruments: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Cello. The key signature is two sharps (D major) and the time signature is 2/4. The tempo is marked 'Moderato assai'. The score is divided into four systems of five measures each. Measure numbers 8, 15, and 22 are indicated at the start of their respective systems. The Cello part begins with a 'pizz.' (pizzicato) instruction. Dynamic markings include *p* (piano), *mf* (mezzo-forte), *f* (forte), *ff* (fortissimo), and *cresc.* (crescendo). The Viola and Cello parts include 'arco' (arco) instructions. The score concludes with a *p* (piano) marking in the final measure.

28

mf *p* *cresc.* *f*

mf *p* *cresc.* *f*

mf *p* *cresc.* *f*

poco cresc. *mf*

35

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

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

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

p *cresc.* *f*

42

p *p* *pp* *arco* *f* *pp*

48

pp *pp*

54

60

rall. A tempo

67

72