

Bristow, G.F. Rip Van Winkle

Cast of Characters:

Rip Van Winkle - a farmer in the Catskill Mountains - Bass

Dame Van Winkle - Rip's wife - Contralto

Alice Van Winkle - Rip's daughter - Soprano

Edward Gardinier - a Captain in the Continental Army - Tenor

Herman Van Slaus - son of the village Burgomaster - Baritone

Plot Synopsis:

Act I:

Time: 1763; Setting: a village in the Catskill Mountains; woods

Rip Van Winkle, a hen-pecked husband, signs a contract with Diedrich Van Slaus, the Burgomaster, agreeing that his daughter and fortune (meaning his farm) shall go to Diedrich's son Herman as marriage dowry unless Rip annuls the contract within 20 years and a day. That same day, after a fight with his wife, he goes hunting in a storm and comes upon a group of spirits in a glen. Rip drinks with them and falls into his famous 20-year sleep.

Act II:

Time: 1783, just after the Revolutionary War; Setting: same village; an army camp

Meanwhile, Alice, Rip's now-full-grown daughter, love Edward, a Captain in the Continental Army. When Herman presses his claim on her, she runs away to join Edward's (and her brother's) battalion as a vivandiere (food provisioner). Herman follows secretly, intending to kill Edward, but is caught and almost slain by Edward's loyal troops.

Act III:

Time: 1783, 20 years to-the-day from when Rip fell asleep;

Setting: woods; same village

Rip wakes up, goes home, and is distraught that no-one knows him and that all of his friends (and his wife) are dead. When he introduces himself as a loyal subject of King George, the villagers try to attack him, but Alice, who doesn't recognize him, protects him. When Herman presents the contract in court the next day, Rip realizes that it is his to annul, and he does so by ripping it up. He is reunited with his son and daughter, and blesses her marriage to Edward. Everyone rejoices.

Bristow, G.F. Rip Van Winkle

wake, sleep - er wake, sleep - er wake, sleep - er wake, sleep - er

wake, sleep - er wake, sleep - er wake, sleep - er wake, sleep - er

Ped. * *Ped.* * *Ped.* * *Ped.* *

This system contains the first two systems of vocal and piano accompaniment. The vocal parts consist of four staves, each with the lyrics 'wake, sleep - er' repeated. The piano accompaniment is on a grand staff with a treble and bass clef, featuring a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes and chords. Pedal markings are present in the bass line.

wake.

wake.

Rip wakes, startled.

All^o con fuoco.

Ped. * *Ped.* * *Ped.* * *Ped.* *

This system contains the third and fourth systems of the score. The vocal parts continue with the lyrics 'wake.' and 'Rip wakes, startled.' The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic pattern. The section concludes with a double bar line and the tempo marking 'All^o con fuoco.' Pedal markings are present in the bass line.

Who speaks? who calls! Where am I! speak once more I

heard sweet voices sing-ing and the strains, Of man-y tune-ful warb-lers,

Sing a - gain, That heaven - hymned mu-sic! 'Tis the dawn of

day! What do I here? how came I in this place, I must have

pp STRINGS.

CELLO. CLAR. FAG.

FL. OB.

cresc.
 slept last night a-mid the hills.
Meno mosso
cresc. *ff* TUTTI. *pp* COR.

p
quasi Andante. CLAR. Let me col-lect my thoughts, I dreamed strange
5 *3*

dreams, I was a - mid a host of spee - tre men, And at their bid-ding,
sf OB. CLAR.

sang, and e-ven drank, Long draughts of some strange liquor, can it be, That I have
5 *3*

dreamed or did I truly talk With spirits of the dead? perchance was

FL.

so, But be it as it may the sun is up, And I must go must go towards

- COR. TROMB.

home, But be it as it may the sun is up, And I must go must go towards

home.

ritard

Andante.

FL. OB. CLAR. FAG.

COR.

The
The

dew of night I am a - fraid, In man-y a pain dis - tils, I
dog that shared my dai - ly bread, Has left his mas - ters side, My

COR.

FL. FAG.

wish that I at home had staid, Nor slept a - mid the hills. I
on - ly trus - ty friend has fled 'Twere bet - ter he had died. My

ritard

a tempo.

a tempo.

COR.

like not couches made of stones, My eyes feel weak and dim The
gun has old and rus - ty grown, Last eve 'twas clean and bright I

FL. CLAR. FAG.

moun-tain air has chilled my bones, And stiff - ened ev' - ry
shall I fear in pains at - tone, For pass - ing here the

FL. OB. CLAR. FAG.

limb, The moun-tain air has chilled my bones, And stiffened ev' - ry
night, I shall I fear in pains at - tone, For pass - ing here the

CORNI. ritard

limb. night. Exit Rip. slowly.

1mo 2do

mf tempo.