

From  
Child's Play

# Reuben's Big Day Out

*Dedicated to the Honourable Paul Keating*

Mx Margaret Dylan Jones

**Allegretto**  $\text{♩} = 92-100$

The musical score is written for piano and consists of 10 measures. It is in 2/4 time and marked **Allegretto** with a tempo of  $\text{♩} = 92-100$ . The piece begins with a piano (*p*) introduction. The right hand (rh) plays chords and some triplets, while the left hand (lh) plays a simple bass line with some triplets. Dynamics range from piano (*p*) to fortissimo (*ff*). The score includes fingerings and articulation marks.

Practice hint: in the quaver passages (e.g. bars 6 & 7) practise the left hand part an octave higher so that it is closer to the right hand.

This piece was formerly called "Conversation" and was re-named in honour of Reuben, the Australian Prime Minister's dog. Reuben was the subject of controversy in the 1990s when Paul Keating was PM.

Can you hear two dogs barking? Their barks sound very different.

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13

*ff*

1 4 1

3 1 2

(h) 3 5

3

16

*p*

*mf*

1

19

1 1 3 1 2

22

*cresc.*

4 2 1 5 3 3

25

*f*

*Sva*

\*

\* The G flat is only played once in the last line (it's just ONE note, held for nearly two bars).

# Child's Play

Eight dodecaphonic piano solos and ensembles.  
Available as individual pieces or as a complete book.

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## Other Music by Margaret Dylan Jones

[mixmargaret.com/pdf](http://mixmargaret.com/pdf)

**Androgyne Prophecy.** Soulful piano solo, composed in 1977 when Mx Jones was aged 16. Also published in an easy arrangement (about grade three or four) in D minor with no octaves and a simplified accompaniment.

**Colourfast Piano Music** (up to about grade two). Ten easy pieces featuring frequent use of F sharp and B flat. As at 2021 *Prayer of the Swinging Mantis* (from *Colourfast*) was still in the piano exam syllabus for the preliminary grade of the Australian Music Examination Board (AMEB).

## Professional level

### Three Parkerville Pieces

**1) DNA in the Valley: the Evolution of Self-Awareness** (based on *Song of Shadows* from *Colourfast Piano Music*)

**2) Puck at Parkerville.** A lively piano solo ca. grade 7 or 8, in traditional harmony and counterpoint somewhat in the style of Bach with a few harmonic surprises. Evokes the mischievous Shakespearean character, *Puck*, from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

**3) Rainbows Over Hovea.** Exciting diploma-standard solo (based on *Hovea Air* from *Colourfast Piano Music*).

**Sonatina** (1981, rev. 1998) (advanced grade level piano)  
Very dark and written at a time of personal crisis.  
Neo-tonal and atonal.

**Song & Dance of the Conscious & Unconscious** (2021).

## LINKS

[mixmargaret.com/blog](http://mixmargaret.com/blog) Articles where you can post comments or replies.

[soundcloud.com/mix-margaret-dylan-jones/sets](https://soundcloud.com/mix-margaret-dylan-jones/sets) Listen free to Margaret's music.

## YouTube videos

Search YouTube for "Mx Margaret Dylan Jones" or click on [MDJ Originals](#)

## Choral and Vocal Music

Music for choir, solo voice, or duet voices.  
Multiple arrangements with new lyrics by MDJ.

**Amazing Grace, The Sweet Sound of Children (Einstein was a Refugee).**

**Amazing Grace, A Song for All (Harvey Milk Gave Us Hope).**

**Amazing Grace**, [3<sup>rd</sup> set, title in progress, humanist]  
[mixmargaret.com/amazing-grace](http://mixmargaret.com/amazing-grace)

**Androgyne Prophecy with Akhenaten.**

**A Prophecy of Beauty in Ruins** (same music as *Androgyne Prophecy with Akhenaten*)

**Beside the Foyle.**

**Beside the Foyle with My Mix.**

(based on same melody as *Londonderry Air*, *Irish Tune from County Derry*, and *Danny Boy*; includes a sing-along version) [mixmargaret.com/beside](http://mixmargaret.com/beside)

**Greensleeves In Love.**

**Greensleeves When I Was Young.**

**Greensleeves Marries.**

[mixmargaret.com/greensleeves](http://mixmargaret.com/greensleeves)

**Yellow Tingle Tree** (lyrics by John Joseph Jones, the composer's father). From a song cycle for choir, piano and speaking voices called *Where Eucalypts Green-Tip the Sky*. [mixmargaret.com/compositions.html#wegtts](http://mixmargaret.com/compositions.html#wegtts)

## About the composer

MARGARET D. JONES studied composition with Roger Smalley at the University of Western Australia for five years beginning in 1979. She founded and conducted two choirs and played in many piano recitals and other performances.

Margaret is an androgyne. Since 2002 she has been consistently using a non-binary transgender title, Mx. In 2015 she published a [major article about Mx](#) on her website some months after Mx appeared in dictionaries. The article also has a little about the [singular they](#).

Mx Margaret Dylan Jones,<sup>1</sup> MusB(comp), DipEd, LTCL(pno teach), ATCL, AMusTCL, AMusA. WWCC.

<sup>1</sup>Mx, or Mix, is the composer's title rather than Miss, Mrs, Ms or Mr. Mx is best pronounced as 'mix.'

Margaret, assumed male at birth (AMAB), is referred to as 'she' or 'they' (using the singular they).

[parkerville-amphitheatre.com](http://parkerville-amphitheatre.com) A brief history 1966-2001, myth busting, and a free documentary. The composer's family built and ran the amphitheatre in Hovea, Western Australia.