

7. Me at the foot of the banisters

From "Cousin Cissie's Baby Book Of Swans"

Peter Tranchell

♩ = 152

Soprano
or
Tenor

Piano

pizzicato

Oh—

4

dear-est Aunt Da - lil - ah, there up - on the high-est stair, you are mouth-ing at the ban - i - ster and

7

tear-ing at your hair, you have flung a sog-gy loof-ah which has slapped me in the face, do you

10

think such things ap-prop-riate to this time or to the place? In— fact,— I take the

13

lib-er-ty to pro - test and to de - clare that it does me scan-ty pleas-ure, and it

17

does you scant-ier grace, that you bounce up - on the land-ing in that ve - ry scant-y lace.

20

You— scream that you're frus-tra-ted of your

23

mat-ut - in - al lave, I sug - gest you find a bet - ter prov - o - ca - tion when you rave; if an

26

un-ass-um-ing wa-ter fowl is swim-ming in your tub, a few pol-ite sug-gest-ions would at

29

once ob-tain your scrub; and con-si-der the com-mo-tion and dis-

8 8 8

32

it would save, if you did-n't wave that bath-brush like a

8 8 8 8

35

Ca-rib-e-an club, for it's los-ing all its fol-iage like an Au-tumn-shed-ding shrub.

(loco)

8 8 8

Now a

reas'n-a - ble ci - vil - i - ty in dea-ling with the bird_ would have ren-dered your pos - i - tion just a

trif - le less ab-surd; that it swal-lowed half your bath-salts and then flut-tered up the flue,_ I ___

blame in part your Well-ing-tons, but most-ly I blame you, and be - cause it has a pur-ple beak it

51

can-not be in-ferred, that to strike it with the loo-fah is the pro-per thing to

55

do, a - ny more than if its beak were col-oured cop-per, say, or blue...

58

And_ fin - al - ly my dear-est Aunt, when

61

you have ceased to howl, al - low me to in - ves - ti - gate your ve - ry cur-ious towel, for_

64

pray ob-serve it has webbed feet which fas-ten round your throat, and its emer - ald -

67

col - oured plum - age_ strikes a_ ve-ry nov-el note. I de - clare dear Aunt Da-

71

li - lah, you have beached an-oth - er fowl, - that towel, was once the

74

weird - est swan I ev-er had a-float. Its chan-ces of sur-vi-val, I re-gret are

78

most re - mote, which an - noys me, Aunt Da - li - lah, for on swans I

81

sim - ply - dote!