Brian Gray

Arranger, Composer

United States (USA), Erie, Pennsylvania

About the artist

Brian S. Gray is a self-taught musician / composer. He also has an interest in amphibians and reptiles, thus, many of his compositions have herpetological titles. Brian Gray started playing guitar when he was 13. He became interested in classical guitar and composition while in high school. Several of his herpetological publications can be downloaded at: http://cnah.org/cnah_pdf.asp

About the piece

Title:	The last ophidian of autumn
Composer:	Gray, Brian
Licence:	Copyright ©2010 Brian Gray
Publisher:	Brian S. Gray
Instrumentation:	Piano solo
Style:	Classical

Brian Gray on free-scores.com

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The Last Ophidian of Autumn

By
Brian S. Gray

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Published in the United States of America
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Preface

In temperate regions of North America, the winters are frequently long and harsh. In such regions, the Common Garter Snakes (*Thamnophis sirtalis*) must enter a retreat called a hibernaculum to avoid freezing temperatures. Hibernacula may be a crevice in a rock outcrop, an old cellar, an opening to an under ground spring, a rodent burrow, and even an ant mound. Whatever it is, it must be sufficiently under ground and insulated to prevent the snakes from experiencing freezing temperatures. As further "insurance" against the cold, the Common Garter Snake is able to survive brief periods of subfreezing temperatures; even to the point of withstanding partial freezing of its body fluids. It is partly because of this adaptation that the Common Garter Snake is one of the last ophidians (snakes) to be seen in the autumn.

Brian S. Gray
24 October 2010
Erie, Pennsylvania

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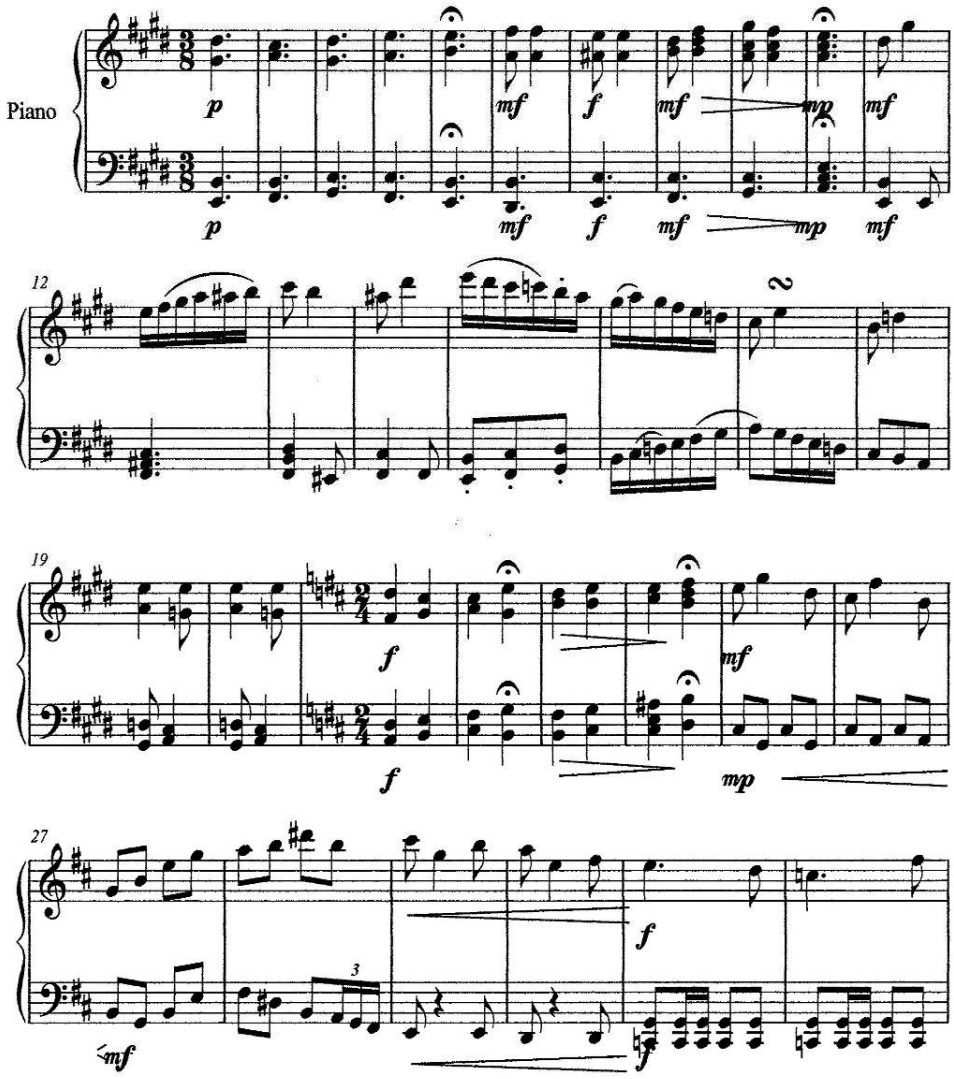
The last ophidian of autumn

Thamnophis sirtalis

Brian S. Gray



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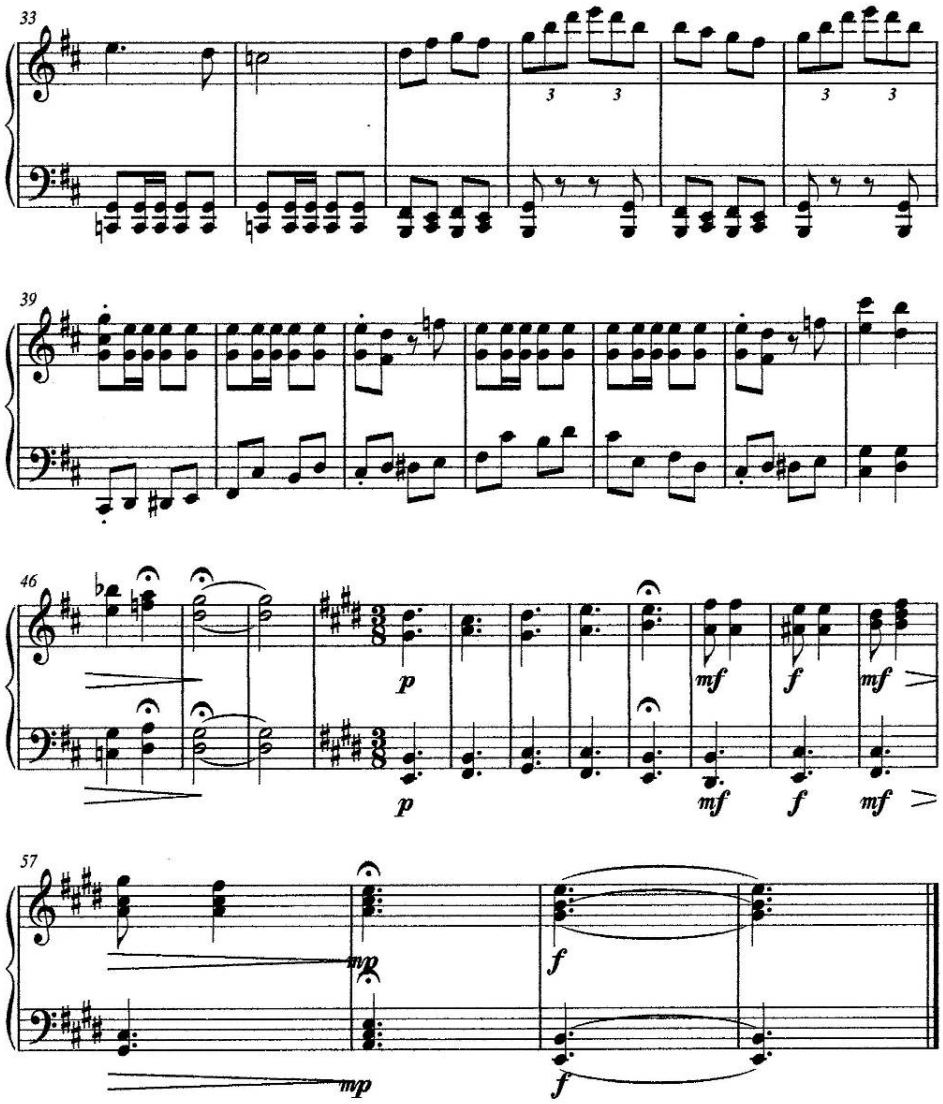

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