

Performance Directions for TIT FOR TAT

TIT FOR TAT can be performed by a solo actor/narrator or it can be simply read by a reader alone.

The notation is basically like most poetry. I have used dots in between stanzas and sections to help the performer gauge the proper difference in the lengths of the silences.

The bracketed sections indicate those portions which I perform faster than the rest. When I perform the piece it lasts about six minutes.

Each performer should create his or her own interpretation. Let the sound, meaning and images of the words guide you in creating your performance. Avoid overly dramatic, exaggerated theatrics.

Also avoid the dull, pretentious, and ever so correct sound of the professional narrator.

Dedicated to
Robie and Kathy
Liscomb

TIT FOR TAT (speech song for
solo reader or
reader alone)

Tit for tat

up at bat

titilating

tintilating

tinsel.

Pumping.

high

at it.

Sticky wicket tickle thicket,

tic pickle tacky wacky sacky.

Tanwaterflesh crest cream fish ashin scales slip cover up,

pass one white hypping shoe lace

piping out and a bass¹ carp

with striped stove in

sick intermiss scowl owl,

and skull young onion gone green fade

soothing smooth holes

pungent dirt

teeth

smellground

brittle feet beach,

die

.

jesting.

.

.

.

Window lake sparkles

lifting off,

hovering over blue wind traces.

Caps spraying no foam

just spring

clean on rock she ore belly boom.

.

.

Loon fog calm.

.

.

.

Snake water in mist.

.

Soft lapping in silent opening.

.

.

.

.

Sap slurp morning mount tonguing rise to yellow yelling haylow play,
 engine gunning column through faces slosh ripples
 with sun bottom glistening up.

My Em den logo logging yokel -
 a wood ox at heart in a box,
 now shadow tar jarring hide.

Ride!!!!

Water utter otter blotter blatter sat her buttocks,
 fruit washing butter satyr bait her gate;
 blew egg yolks bloke soaked pub licked,
 stick.

itch

rubbed

stub

encumbered lumber,

by hole mole,

.

Soul!

.

Yeah!!

Use it music!

Booze it ooze, lit whose?

Miss use it muse?

Slit?

Drum bum lose she shelter shaker blues!

.

.

Auntie Satie pee.

.

Garden heart harden art.

Bark black

crusted

home

leather weathered wrinkled tinkle tin.

Bread crumb bum

slit drum.

.

Whose muse?

Booze it lit ooze?

Miss lose it whose?

Harden heart art music use?

.

.

.

Noontide cementing members congregate

no icy I so elation wind go buff grrr ass

dry thin golden rods with seeds spraying spring clean

wiping sin,

no,

snow melting.

Smellthing.

Moss

sweet

street

burning with rain.

getting o f f

getting up

getting in

getting out

getting mail

getting box

getting in

getting out

getting o f f

getting box

getting getting

getting getting

getting getting!! }

Ring a ding ding?

Ding a dong dong?

Dill a doe?

Doe?

No!! No!!

Sing!!!

Sow with a hoe!!

For:

Spring is coming!

Spring is coming!

Spring is coming!!

Starbusting rainbow glue scatter matter.

Commune.

Come and get it!²

Califlower shower hour!

.

starling.

starling are darling.

starling are car

char

far

bay

lay

blackblue dott ballet!



.

Spring.

.

.

Come.

.

.

Union.

.

.

.

Vapor heat tunnel

Satin sultry orange waterfire setting.

Hole in sky moon soon.

.

Twilight.

Come union

on dark underbrush fur smoking.

Rising wood remains,

engulfing,

snuffing fire.

.

.

Embracing dark,

eye becomes ear.

.

.

Logside

ball loon a tic

row rose rising

tides abide.

Tremble,

lone door

crumbling rocks,

char colded cracks opening in thaw.

Stalk petal purple looming feed

saw dusted ice he eat.


.

.

Deep pine mudslime shine beaming shafts ribbon,
 merged liquid light
 phantom ark in rhinemelon sky
 metal stream tape cloud
 twisting military mist
 arching past wing
 asking poolmass acceptance.

Lout's sword voiding
 transparent thrusting
 outboard upward
 oak suds shehe duds
 dawn candle aura
 or a day gulf gull
 salt gray reach cup
 can vast soundlight
 up there lining design.

Bar been
 has been
 salt gin
 jenny win
 wendle willing
 silly bill
 jetty chess
 guessing west!



Jumping.

Bye.

.

Sat bit.

.

.

.

Sickle lick it sack it fat tick,

fix happy acne lackey sap me.

.

Sit for lack

sup he sat

scintilating

palpitating

crystal.

.

.

Pianissimo.³

Pain glass.

Classic glow.

.

.

.

.

Nor thing,

ignore thing whore ring or lower sing ignore or thing whore fling score,

snore nor shore thing gore ring or sing whore or nor thing,

sing or sing gore.

.

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Pianissimo.

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¹The "a" is pronounced like gas, i.e., bass not bās

²As if calling someone to dinner out on the range

³Pronounce in Italian

Stuart Smith