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# At the Aquarium

Alan Stringer

Max Eastman

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702  
Stringer, A.  
Box III  
No. 2

# At the Aquarium

Max Eastman

Alan Stringer

The musical score is written for a string quartet, consisting of four staves: Violin I, Violin II, Viola, and Cello/Double Bass. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor), and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 104. The score is divided into four systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are written in the vocal line, and the piano accompaniment consists of chords and rhythmic patterns. The lyrics describe the behavior of silverfish in an aquarium, noting their lack of a path and their constant movement.

**System 1:**  
Violin I:  $\text{♩} = 104$   
Lyrics: 1. Ser-ene the  
2. The lev-el

**System 2:**  
Lyrics: sil-ver fish-es glide, stern-  
peop-le in the air, The lipped, and pale, and  
peer-ing,

**System 3:**  
Lyrics: won-der-eyed! They have no path-  
peer-ing there: who al-so wan- way where they  
end

**System 4:**  
Lyrics: go. They flow like wat-er to and fro.  
fro, and know not why or where they go,

They watch with nev- er wink- ing eyes. They watch  
Yet have a won- der in their eyes, Some- times

with star- ing cold sur- prise  
a pale and cold sur- prise.