



Classical Piano Improv 1

In this lesson, we simply ‘play’ a poem on the piano. Just pick a scale, start on any scale tone, and play one note per syllable. It helps to sing along as you play. Move primarily step-wise, and let the music go up and down the scale. Try to maintain a connection between your inner ear and the sound of each note.

I encourage you to use a variety of poems and to occasionally come back to this lesson, even after moving on to the others in this series. I find that using poems gives me continual inspiration and helps get me beyond the “what do I do now?” stage.

Here’s a poem by Emily Dickinson to get you started:

To make a prairie it takes a clover and one bee.
One clove, and a bee.
And revery.
The revery alone will do,
If bees are few.

Have fun!