



a chamber opera for mezzo-soprano, baritone, narrator  
and five instruments, based on a Shetlandic Folktale

Emily Doolittle (music and libretto)  
Peter Guy (libretto)

# Jan Tait and the Bear

## Introduction

Music: Emily Doolittle  
Words: Peter Guy and Emily Doolittle

1 *free, expansive*  
♩ = 80

Narrator

Flute

Accordion

5

Nar.

Fl.

Acc.

9

Nar.

Fl.

Acc.

My friends, I would like to share with you a tale

13

Nar. **4/4** | **5/4** | **3/4**  
 about the folk who lived in the North Isles of Shetland very many years ago when Shetland was part of the Kingdom of Norway.

Fl. **4/4** | **5/4** | **3/4**  
*mf* *mp* *mf* *più f* *mf*

Acc. **4/4** | **5/4** | **3/4**  
*mf*

16

Nar. **3/4** | **4/4** | **7/8** | **4/4**  
 It is a tale full of drama, and concerns the freeman of Fetlar, known as Udallers, and the death of Sigurd,

Fl. **3/4** | **4/4** | **7/8** | **4/4**  
*f* *più f* *mf*

Acc. **3/4** | **4/4** | **7/8** | **4/4**  
*più f* *mf*

19

Nar. **4/4** | **2/4** | **4/4** | **5/8**  
 a Norwegian tax officer sent by the King of Norway to collect the land tax, called skatt.

Fl. **4/4** | **2/4** | **4/4** | **5/8**  
*f* *mp* *mf* *mp*

Cl. **4/4** | **2/4** | **4/4** | **5/8**  
*f* *mp* *mf* *mp*

Acc. **4/4** | **2/4** | **4/4** | **5/8**  
*f* *mp* *mf* *mp*