

## EASY AS PIE

### Elementary Piano Solos

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#### Red Leaf Pianoworks

The front cover says: Fourteen Delicious Elementary Piano Solos. I generally employ food rhythm words to assist with counting issues so it was amusing to see titles such as *Hot Potato*, *Tough Cookie*, and *Mac and Cheese*. All fourteen titles are relatable and imaginative which is the first step for engaging the elementary student!

Each work features numerous accidentals. The key signatures don't exceed 2 sharps or 1 flat. All the time signatures are simple meter. Articulations are varied and clearly assist with the character of the piece. Syncopation is employed in *Hot Potato*, *Two Peas in a Pod*, and *Cool as a Cucumber*.

*Piece of Cake*, *Hot Potato*, the B section of *Mac and Cheese*, *Bread Crumbs*, and *My Cup of Tea*: are all written using 2 treble clefs.

Many compositional tools make this collection of solos full of variety and interesting to play! Although there is no indication to do so, I did find myself wanting to swing a few of these pieces. Harmonies are colourful and engaging!

The music in this book would be appropriate for the student at around RCM levels 3 – 4.

*Jean Ritter – British Columbia*