The Nightwatch

*two tiny love songs*
*for high voice and chamber orchestra*

Joelle Wallach
The Nightwatch

two tiny songs for high voice and chamber orchestra

Duration: 5.5 minutes

Instrumentation:

Piccolo
Flute
Oboe
Clarinet, 1 player: B-flat for I; A for II
Bassoon
Contrabassoon (tacit II)

2 French horns in F (only one horn in II)

Percussion (Tacit I; two players in II)
  Pitched: timpani
glockenspiel
  Unpitched: bass drum
clavestriangle

sectional strings:
  violins 1 & 2
  viola
  violoncello
  contrabass

This is a transposed score. Pitches in instrumental parts are identical to those in the score.

Assurance

You will never be alone,
You hear too deep a sound when autumn comes.
Yellow pulls across the hills and thrums
Like silence after lightning
Before it says its names.

You were aimed from birth:
You will never be alone.
Rain will come, a gutter filled,
An Amazon, long aisles.
You never heard so deep a sound,
Moss on rock, and years.

That’s what the silence meant:
You’re not alone.
The whole wide world pours down.

The Nightwatch

Wherever you are tonight,
Will you know how the world
Was washed where I was.
When I went away
Wishing for you I was wrong.
I wanted to vow
We weren’t the world’s twins.

Now I allow whole wastes,
Winter wherever I am,
Even when the weather warms.
No wonder I
Will welcome the wolf of my wanting.

Madeline Tiger

William Stafford
The Nightwatch

I

Assurance

William Stafford

Flute

Contrabassoon tacit

Violin 1

semplice \( \frac{d}{=58} \)

Violin 2

Violoncello

Tutti \( \text{pizz.} \) con sord.

Percussion

2

Horn II tacit

Oboe

p \( \text{sotto voce} \)

Ab, Bs, Cb, Db, Es/F/G

Voice

You will never be alone, you

Harp

Voice

Clarinet

sotto voce

Percussion

Glockenspiel

1

Cymbal

2

Tympani

Horns in F

Bassoon

Cello

Pizz. (sord.)

William Stafford

semplice \( \frac{d}{=58} \)

Violin 1

solo senza sord.

Violin 2

bassoon

Viola

pp ben dolce

solo senza sord.

Tutti pp expr.

solo senza sord.

pp ben dolce

Ben dolce

You will never be alone, you

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Contrabass
outside stands pizz. attack,
inside stands arco tremulo
octaves divisi arco tutti

Violoncello
inside stands arco tremulo
outside stands pizz. attack,

Viola

Violin 2
tutti con sord.

Violin 1

Voice
hear so deep a sound when autumn comes. Yellow pulls across

Harp

Percussion
1
2

Horn in F

Bassoon

Clarinet in A

Flute

Oboe

Piccolo

Solo Voice

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the hills and thumps, or silence after lightning before it says its names.
You were aimed from birth: you will never be alone. Rain
will come, a gutter filled, an Amazon, long aisles you
never heard so deep a sound, moss on rock, and years. that's
what the si-lence meant: You, you’re not a-lone, you’re not a-lone;

solo molto dolce gli altri divisi, gli altri sordino
the whole world pours down.
The Nightwatch

II

Wherever you are tonight, will you know how the

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world was washed where I was? When I went away wishing for you I was wrong.
I wanted to vow I wouldn’t worry we weren’t the
world’s twins. Now I allow whole wastes,
wint-er  
wher-e-ver I am,  
e-ven when the wea-ther warms,  
no
I will welcome the wolf of my wanting.