

The Nightwatch

*two tiny songs for high voice and piano
(or chamber orchestra)*

Joelle Wallach
(1997)

The Nightwatch
two tiny songs for high voice and piano
by
Joelle Wallach

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.

William Stafford

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

Assurance

William E. Stafford
semplice ominoso $\text{♩} = 58$

Joelle Wallach

mp

You will ne - ver be _____ a - lone, you

sfp *pp lontano* *ppp*

hear so deep a sound when au - tumn comes. Yel - low pulls ac - ross _____

_____ the hills and thrums, or si - lence _____ af - ter light - ning _____ be - fore it says _____ its names.

p *mf* *poco f*

You were aimed from birth: you will ne - ver be _____ a - lone. Rain

will come, a gut - ter filled, an A - ma - zon, long aisles you

pedale simile al fine

ne - ver 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;

mp ma con passione

the whole wide world pours down.

pp

pppp

8va

8ba

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Cantabile ♩=84

mp

Where - e - ver you are to -

mp dolce delicato

night, will you know how the world was washed — where I was? When I went a -

way wish-ing for you I was wrong. I want-ed to vow I would-n't wor-ry,

p ma poco maestoso

we were-n't the world's twins. Now I al-low whole wastes,

pp

mf

win-ter — wher-e-ver I am, e - - ven when the wea-ther warms, no

mf

This system contains the first two measures of the piece. The vocal line begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and a dynamic marking of *mf*. The lyrics are "win-ter — wher-e-ver I am, e - - ven when the wea-ther warms, no". The piano accompaniment features a bass clef and a key signature of two flats. It includes several triplet markings (indicated by a '3' over the notes) and a *mf* dynamic marking.

won-der I _____ will wel-come the wolf of my want - ing.

pp poco lontano

This system contains the next two measures. The vocal line continues with the lyrics "won-der I _____ will wel-come the wolf of my want - ing.". The piano accompaniment continues with triplet markings and concludes with a *pp poco lontano* marking.

This system consists of two measures of piano accompaniment. The upper staff is empty, while the lower staff contains complex rhythmic patterns with multiple triplet markings.

This system consists of two measures of piano accompaniment, continuing the complex rhythmic patterns from the previous system with numerous triplet markings.

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