

# Deep in the Quiet Wood

*for Medium Voice (Baritone or Mezzo-Soprano) and Piano*

Music by Joshua Fishbein

Words by James Weldon Johnson (1871 - 1938)

Deep in the Quiet Wood  
by James Weldon Johnson

Are you bowed down in heart?  
Do you but hear the clashing discords and the din of life?  
Then come away, come to the peaceful wood,  
Here bathe your soul in silence. Listen! Now,  
From out the palpitating solitude  
Do you not catch, yet faint, elusive strains?  
Silently listen! Clear, and still more clear, they come.  
They bubble up in rippling notes, and swell in singing tones.  
Now let your soul run the whole gamut of the wondrous scale  
Until, responsive to the tonic chord,  
It touches the diapason of God's grand cathedral organ,  
Filling earth for you with heavenly peace  
And holy harmonies.

Note: This poem is in the public domain.  
It was published in James Weldon Johnson's book  
*Fifty Years & Other Poems* (The Cornhill Company, 1917).



**Faster, flowing** ♩ = 76

*rit.*

7

*f*

din of life?

**Faster, flowing** ♩ = 76

*rit.*

*f* *mf* *molto*

*cant.*

*ped.* \* *ped.* \* *ped.* \* *ped.* \* *ped.* \* *ped.* \*

11

**Freely**

*p*

Then come a - way, come to the

**Freely**

*p*

*ped.* \*

14

**Tempo primo** ♩ = 69

*mp dolce*

peace - ful wood, Here bathe your soul, Here bathe your

**Tempo primo** ♩ = 69

*p*

*ped.* \* *ped.* \* *ped.* \* *ped.* \* *ped.* \* *ped.* \*

18 **Faster, flowing** ♩ = 76 *cresc.* *mf* *rall.* *molto* *pp*

soul, Here bathe your soul in

**Faster, flowing** ♩ = 76 *cresc.* *mf* *p* *rall.* *8va*

*8va*

*8vb* *8vb* *8vb* *8vb* *8vb*

Lead. \* Lead. \* Lead. \* Lead. \*

22 **Relaxed, calm and ethereal** ♩ = 66

si - lence.

**Relaxed, calm and ethereal** ♩ = 66 *p* *loco* *8vb*

*8vb* *8vb*

Lead. \*

25 *mp* *\*\** *8va*

Lis-te(n) n! Lis-ten! Now, From out the pal-pi-ta-ting

*pp* *loco* *8vb* *8vb*

*8vb* *8vb*

Lead. \* Lead. \* Lead. \* Lead. \*

\* Optional. \*\* Close to "n."

29

*so-li-tude* — *Do you not catch, yet faint, e-lu-sive*

*accel.* *p* *mp* *accel.*

*gva* *p* *cresc.*

*8vb* *Lead.* \* *Lead.* \* *Lead.* \* *Lead.* \* *Lead.* \*

32

*strains?* — *They are a-*

**Faster** ♩ = 76 *mf* *accel.* *f*

*cant.* *mf*

*Lead.* \* *Lead.* \* *Lead.* \* *Lead.* \* *Lead.* \* *Lead.* \* *Lead.* \* *Lead.* \* *Lead.* \*

36

*bove, a-round, with-in you, ev'-ry-where,*

**Boisterous, steady** ♩ = 80

*(mf)* *mf*

*Lead.* \* *Lead.* \* *Lead.* \* *Lead.* \* *Lead.* \* *Lead.* \* *Lead.* \* *Lead.* \* *Lead.* \*

\* A catch breath.



48 *poco rit.* *f* *a tempo* *still f*

clear, they come. They bubble up in rip - pling

*mf* *f* *p*

*poco rit.* *a tempo*

L.H.

*mf* *f* *p*

Lead. \*Lead. \*Lead. \*Lead. \*

51 *sub. mp* *mf* *cresc.*

notes, and swell, and swell

*p* *mp* L.H.

*mf* *cresc.*

Lead. \*Lead. \*Lead. \*Lead. \*Lead. \*

53 *broadening* *A little slower* ♩ = 76 *f*

in sing - ing tones,

*broadening* *A little slower* ♩ = 76 *f* *sub. mp*

*mf* *f* *sub. mp*

Lead. \*Lead. \*Lead. \*





10

64

*f* *poco marc.* *f cant.*

res-pon-sive to the ton-ic chord, the ton-ic

*più f* *poco marc.* *f*

8va

Leg. \*Leg. \*Leg. \*Leg. \*Leg. \*Leg. \*Leg. \*Leg. \*

67

chord, It

*molto rit.* *mp dolce*

*cant.* *molto rit.* *molto*

8va

Leg. \*Leg. \*Leg. \*Leg. \*Leg. \*Leg. \*Leg. \*

**Relaxed, calm and ethereal** ♩ = 66

70

touch es the di-a-pa-son of God's grand ca-

*p* *8va*

Leg. \*Leg. \*Leg. \*Leg. \*Leg. \*Leg. \*Leg. \*

L'istesso tempo, heavy

74

*mf*

the - dral or - ga(n) - n, Fill - ing

L'istesso tempo, heavy

*mp*

Lead. \*Lead. \*Lead. \*Lead. \*Lead. \*Lead. \*

Faster, flowing ♩ = 76 pressing forward

77

*cantabile*

earth for you with heav'n - ly

Faster, flowing ♩ = 76 pressing forward

*f*

*mf*

Lead. \*Lead. \*Lead. \*Lead. \*

80

peace And ho - ly har - mo - nies,

*poco rit. a tempo*

*poco rit. a tempo*

*cresc.*

*f*

Lead. \*Lead. \*Lead. \*Lead. \*

12

83

*f*

And ho - ly

*sub. mp cresc.* *mf*

*ped.* \* *ped.* \* *ped.* \* *ped.* \* *ped.* \* *ped.* \*

86

har - mo - nies,

*rit.*

*f cresc. gradualmente* *rit.*

*sub. ped.* \* *ped.* \* *ped.* \* *ped.* \* *ped.* \* *ped.* \*

*molto rit.*

**Slower, freely** ♩ = c.a. 52 *ritenuto*

*mp* soulfully *mf* *molto* *p*

89

And ho - ly

*molto rit.*

*dim.* *molto* *L.H. p*

*1.v.*

**Slower, freely** ♩ = c.a. 52 *ritenuto*

*ped.*

\* Lift sustain pedal gradually.

Ethereal, veiled ♩ = 60

94 *< mf > p*  
har - mo - nies.

Ethereal, veiled ♩ = 60

*pp loco* *loco* *poco cresc.*

8vb  
una corda  
Led. \* Led. \*

*ritardando poco a poco al fine*

98 *p* *dim.* *pp* *ppp*

*loco* *l.v.*

8vb  
Led. \* Led. \*

c. 6'  
February 2017  
Rockville, Maryland, U.S.A.