



THE

WILLOW SONG

OR

VOICES FROM THE SPIRIT LAND

Poetry by

J. Wesley Hanson

Music by

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BOSTON

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THE WILLOW SONG.

Andante Espressivo

p *mf* *8va* *Ad Lib.*

The piano introduction is in 3/4 time with a key signature of two flats. It begins with a melody in the right hand and accompaniment in the left hand. The melody features a triplet of eighth notes and a trill. The piece concludes with a trill and a fermata.

1. 'Twas a cold and starry eve - ning, Moonlight fell in silver lines, Airy

The vocal line starts with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note, a quarter note, and a quarter note. The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the left hand and rests in the right hand.

voi - ces sad were griev - ing, In the mus - ic haunted pines. Pale a

The vocal line continues with a quarter note, a quarter note, a quarter note, and a quarter note. The piano accompaniment continues with chords in the left hand and rests in the right hand.

Mother watch'd her dearest, Wept she o'er her darling boy, — "O Mother! Mother!

The vocal line begins with a quarter note, followed by a quarter note, a quarter note, and a quarter note. The piano accompaniment continues with chords in the left hand and rests in the right hand.

hear - est Thou those dis - tant sounds of joy!"

The first system of music features a vocal line in a treble clef and a piano accompaniment in a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 3/4. The vocal line begins with the lyrics "hear - est Thou those dis - tant sounds of joy!". The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and a simple bass line in the left hand.

gva *Loco* 2. "Oh! hush thee, hush thy sobbings, Lean thy
ad lib: *p*

The second system continues the musical piece. It includes a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line has a fermata over the word "gva" and then begins the second phrase: "2. 'Oh! hush thee, hush thy sobbings, Lean thy". The piano accompaniment includes performance directions: "Loco" above the staff and "ad lib: p" below the staff. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a "3" above it.

head upon my breast, Mother! how thy heart's low throbbings Seem to

The third system of music shows the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line continues with the lyrics "head upon my breast, Mother! how thy heart's low throbbings Seem to". The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and a steady bass line.

whis - per me to rest!" As I slept upon my pillow, I saw before me stand A

The fourth system concludes the page's musical notation. The vocal line and piano accompaniment are shown. The vocal line ends with the lyrics "whis - per me to rest!" As I slept upon my pillow, I saw before me stand A". The piano accompaniment continues with chords and a bass line.

broad and waving wil-low, Leaning o'er a si-lent land.

mf

loco.

p ad lib.

3. 'Mong its dark - ly wav-ing branches, Murmur'd voi - ces sweet, and

p

clear, Like an or - gan, when it launches Sil-ver mu - sic on the

p

ear! On that ver - dant, wide savan - nah, There stood no other tree, Its

mf

dark - ly waving banner, Was all that I could see.

pva *loco*

ad lib:

4

As I gazed upon its brightness,
 Forth a lovely creature flew;
 She was dressed in snow-bright whiteness,
 As she caught my startled view;
 Took my hand in her cold fingers,—
 Leaned my brow upon her heart,—
 Oh! like ice her cold touch lingers,—
 Will it nevermore depart!

5

"See the willow now is swinging!
 Slow its music cometh near;—
 Now grows faint,—now softly singing,
 Dies upon my listening ear!"
 Bowed the Mother in deep sorrow,—
 Fell her tears like April rain;
 Sadly drooped she on the morrow,—
 For the child ne'er spake again!

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