The Peace of Wild Things

SATB choir (div.) & piano
When despair for the world grows in me
and I wake in the night at the least sound
in fear of what my life and my children’s lives may be,
I go and lie down where the wood drake
rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.
I come into the peace of wild things
who do not tax their lives with forethought
of grief. I come into the presence of still water.
And I feel above me the day-blind stars
waiting with their light. For a time
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.

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Performance Time  c. 4:30

Commissioning Ensemble

Young New Yorkers’ Chorus. Michael Kerschner, conductor.

About the Composer

Award-winning composer Jake Runestad (b. 1986) is noted for his
versatility and wide range of expressive capabilities with music driven by
soaring melodies, driving rhythms, and lush textures.

Mr. Runestad has received numerous commissions and performances
from ensembles and organizations such as Washington National Opera,
the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra, Seraphic Fire, the Dayton
Philharmonic Orchestra, VocalEssence, the Master Chorale of Tampa Bay,
and Craig Hella Johnson and VAE Cincinnati.

Jake Runestad holds a Master’s degree in composition from the Peabody
Conservatory of the Johns Hopkins University where he studied with
Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Kevin Puts. He has also studied extensively with acclaimed
composer Libby Larsen. Mr. Runestad’s music is published by Boosey & Hawkes and JR Music.

Find out more at: JakeRunestad.com
Perusal Score

Please purchase scores at:

JakeRunestad.com/store

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Choral Works by Jake Runestad

Alleluia      SATB with divisi, unaccompanied  3:00
And So I Go On SSAATTBB, unaccompanied   6:00
Come to the Woods SATB with divisi & piano    11:00
Dereva Ni Mungu SATB, percussion, & piano    3:00
               TB, percussion, & piano    3:00
Dreams of the Fallen Piano, chorus, & orchestra  25:00
Fear Not, Dear Friend SATB with divisi, unaccompanied  6:00
Good Night, My Love SATB & piano     4:00
I Will Lift Mine Eyes SATB with divisi, unaccompanied  4:30
Let My Love Be Heard SATB with divisi, unaccompanied  4:00
The King of Love SATB & piano     4:00
Lux Aeterna      SSAA, unaccompanied    5:00
Nada Te Turbe   SSAATTBB, unaccompanied    6:00
None Other Lamb  SATB & piano     4:00
Nyon Nyon       SATB with divisi, unaccompanied  3:30
Peace Flows Into Me SATB & piano     4:00
The Peace of Wild Things SATB with divisi & piano    6:00
Sing, Wearing the Sky SSAA, violin, piano, & percussion  5:00
Sleep, Little Baby, Sleep SATB, unaccompanied    4:30
Spirited Light   SATB with divisi, unaccompanied  4:30
We Can Mend the Sky SATB with divisi & percussion  8:00
Why the Caged Bird Sings SATB with divisi, unaccompanied  8:30

For perusal scores, recordings, and to purchase scores, please visit:

JakeRunestad.com
More motion $\downarrow = 72$

Slower $\downarrow = 60$

In fear, and I wake in the night in fear, in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be.

Pno.
a tempo  
molto rit.  
a tempo, with hope (\(q = 60\))

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Go and lie down where the wood drake rests in his

freely  
molto rit.  
a tempo, with hope (\(q = 60\))

and the great he-ron feeds.

beaut-ty on the wa-ter and the great he-ron feeds.
molto rit.

Con moto $\frac{\text{d}}{\text{s}} = 76$

I come in to the peace of wild things who do not tax their lives

molto rit.

Con moto $\frac{\text{d}}{\text{s}} = 76$

I come in to the peace of wild things who do not tax their lives

S.

A.

T.

B.

Pno.

S.

A.

T.

B.

Pno.

34

— with forethought of grief.

Peace

34

— with forethought of grief.

Peace

34

— with forethought of grief.

Peace

34

— with forethought of grief.

Peace

34

sustain throughout
do not tax their lives with fore-thought of grief.

I come into the peace of wild things.

who do not tax their lives with fore-thought of grief.

The peace I come into the

who do not tax their lives with fore-thought of grief. I come

peace of wild things.
rit.

a tempo

peace, to the presence of still water. And I

into the peace of water. And I

peace, into the presence of still water.

I come into the water,

a tempo

Ah

Ah

Ah

Ah

mf

mf

mf

mf

rit.

I come into the

feel above me the day-blind stars waiting with their light.

feel above me the day-blind stars waiting with their light.

above the stars

above the stars

A.

T.

B.

Pno.

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Pno.
peace For a time I rest in the grace of the world,

Pno.

For a time I rest in the grace of the world,

T. For a time I rest in the grace of the world for a

B. peace for a time I rest in the grace of the world,

51

S. mf f

A. mf f

T. mf f

B. mf f

Pno.

55

S. 

A. 

T. 

B. 

Pno.
Perusal Score

For a time I rest in the grace of the world.

for a time I rest in the grace of the world.

for a time I rest in the grace of the world.

Flowing \( q = 72 \)

and am free,

and am free,

and am free,

*Left hand should be quieter than right, bring out higher pitches in R.H.*