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JULIANA HALL

BELLS AND GRASS

5 Songs for Soprano and Oboe

on Poems by
Walter de la Mare

ECHO

Seven sweet notes
In the moonlight pale
Warbled a leaf-hidden
Nightingale:
And Echo in hiding
By an old green wall
Under the willows
Sighed back them all.

GONE

Bright sun, hot sun, oh, to be
Where beats on the restless sea!
To hear the sirens of the deep
Chaunting old Ocean's floods to sleep!
And shadowed wave to sunlit wave
Call from the music-haunted cave!
There, with still eyes, their watch they keep,
While, at horizon mark, a ship,
With cloudlike sails glides slowly on,
Smalls, vanishes, is gone.

WHY?

Ever, ever
Stir and shiver
The reeds and rushes
By the river:
Ever, ever,
As if in dream,
The lone moon's silver
Sleeks the stream.
What old sorrow,
What lost love,
Moon, reeds, rushes,
Dream you of?

COALS

In drowsy fit
I hear the flames
Syllabing o'er
Their ancient names:
The coals — a glory
Of gold — blaze on,
Drenched with the suns
Of centuries gone;
While, at the window,
This rainy day
In darkening twilight
Dies away.

RAIN

I woke in the swimming dark
And heard, now sweet, now shrill,
The voice of the rain-water
Cold and still,
Endlessly sing; now faint,
In the distance borne away;
Now in the air float near,
But nowhere stay;
Singing I know not what,
Echoing on and on;
Following me in sleep,
Till night was gone.

— *Walter de la Mare*

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E.C. Schirmer
MUSIC COMPANY
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For my dear friend, Janet Popesco Archibald

Bells and Grass

for Soprano and Oboe

Echo

Walter de la Mare

Juliana Hall
(b. 1958)

Melancholy (♩ = 60)

Soprano

Oboe

p

5 *p*

Sev - en sweet notes In the moon - light pale

8

War - bled a leaf - hid - den

10 *pp*

Freely, Cadenza-Like

Night - - - in - gale:

13 **A Tempo**

Freely, Cadenza-Like **A Tempo**

p

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Gone

Walter de la Mare

Juliana Hall

(b. 1958)

1 With Energy (♩ = 66)

f

Bright sun, hot sun,

f

3 *f*

oh, to be Where beats on the rest - less

f

5 Rit. ----- ♩ = 58 *pp*

sea! To hear the

Rit. ----- ♩ = 58 *pp*

8

si - rens of the deep Chaunt - ing old

11 *p* ♩ = 104

O - cean's floods to sleep! And

p ♩ = 104

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Why?

Walter de la Mare

Juliana Hall

(b. 1958)

1 **Dreamy** (♩ = 58)

♩ = 72

5 *mp*

Ev - er, ev - er Stir and shiv - er

♩ = 72

mp

Poco Rit......

7 **A Tempo**

The reeds and rush - es By the riv - er:

A Tempo

9 *p*

♩ = 58

Ev - er, ev - er,

♩ = 58

p

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Rain

Walter de la Mare

Juliana Hall
(b. 1958)

1 Warmly (♩ = 50)

I woke in the swim - ming dark

And heard, now sweet, now shrill, The

voice of the rain - wa - ter Cold and

still, End - less - ly sing;