

Will-O'-The-Wisp

for SA Voices† with Piano Accompaniment

Text based on *Will-O'-The-Wisp* by
Madison Julius Cawein (1865-1914)

Music by
Leeann Starkey

Freely (♩ = c. 60)

Piano *p*

Ped. (Optional long intro - if not used, start voices only at m. 7)

5 **Allegro** (♩ = c. 110)

S
A

Shhh...
Whoo...

rit. *a tempo* **Allegro** (♩ = c. 110)

f *p*

tr ***

10

mp

*Singers improvise wind sounds and use crescendos/decrescendos as desired to make a more realistic effect. Singers may also add a visual element of looking around for the "will-o'-the-wisp".

**Pianist should sustain whole note with right hand until it fades away - even as left hand enters.

†Also available in SATB (24-95795)

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13

There in the ca - la - mus¹ he stands with

15

frog - webbed feet and bat-winged hands; His glow - worm garb glints gob - lin wise so

17

elf - ish - ly. A - bove the gleam of owl - et eyes a

19

death's-moth² cap of down - y dyes He nods at

*Sing staccato/detached as needed to clarify text throughout piece

1. Calamus - a type of Asian palm tree

2. Death's-Head - the Death's Head Hawkmoth is a species of moth with a vaguely human skull-shaped pattern on its thorax

21

me! Now

me!

23

in the reeds his face looks white his glow - ing eyes shine in the light Now

Come and fol-low me Come and fol-low me Come and fol-low me in - to the night

f

25

through the dark old haunt - ed mill so ee - ri - ly He *sub. p*

Come and fol-low me Come and fol-low me so ee - ri - ly He *sub. p*

27

flits and with a whip-poor-will³ mouth calls and seems to syl-la-ble

flits and with a whip - por - will³

sub. p

29

f "Come fol-low me!" Shhh... *rit.*

f "Come fol-low me!" Whoo...

f *rit.*

33

mf Now o'er the slug-gish

mf Now o'er the slug-gish

mf *Adagio* (♩ = c. 68)

*Singers improvise wind sounds as they did in the beginning of the piece. A few voices continue wind sounds until m. 36.

3. Whipporwill - a nocturnal, medium-sized, brown bird

36

stream he wends, a slim light at his fin - ger ends; His

stream he wends, a slim light at his fin - ger ends; His

39

accel.

f eas - y foot - steps seem to come now near to me!

accel. *f* eas - y foot - steps seem to come now near to me!

accel. *f*

42 **Allegro** (♩ = c. 110)

Stomp Left Right Left Right Right

There

Allegro (♩ = c. 110)

44 (optional*)

By the pool he stands with flick' ring hands; The
by the stag-nant pool he stands a fox - fire lamp in flick' ring hands; The
By the pool he stands by the pool he stands by the pool he stands with flick' ring hands;

f

This block contains the musical notation for measures 44 and 45. It features three vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The piano part consists of a right-hand staff with chords and a left-hand staff with a rhythmic accompaniment. The lyrics are: "By the pool he stands with flick' ring hands; The by the stag-nant pool he stands a fox - fire lamp in flick' ring hands; The By the pool he stands by the pool he stands by the pool he stands with flick' ring hands;". A dynamic marking of *f* is present at the start of the piano part.

46

weeds are slime and mock - ing - ly with *sub. p*
weeds are slim - y to the tread and mock - ing - ly, with *sub. p*
By the pool he stands by the pool he stands and mock - ing - ly with *sub. p*

sub. p

This block contains the musical notation for measures 46 and 47. It features three vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The piano part consists of a right-hand staff with chords and a left-hand staff with a rhythmic accompaniment. The lyrics are: "weeds are slime and mock - ing - ly with weeds are slim - y to the tread and mock - ing - ly, with By the pool he stands by the pool he stands and mock - ing - ly with". Dynamic markings of *sub. p* are present at the end of each vocal line and at the end of the piano part.

*Could be played by C-Instrument

slant - ed eyes and el - dritch⁴ head

slant - ed eyes and el - dritch⁴ head he leans a - bove my face and said,

slant - ed eyes and el - dritch⁴ head

50 *f* "Now run and flee!" *ff rit.* "Now run and

f "Now run and flee!" *ff* "Now run and

f "Now run and flee!" *ff* "Now run and

f *rit. ff*

Head Up Down Right Left Forward Hand*

a tempo

flee!" Tssss!

flee!" Tssss!

flee!" Tssss!

a tempo

*Make a cup with right hand (palm up and fingers open) and reach out to audience. Freeze at end of arm's reach.

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