

# The sweet nightingale

A setting of the Appalachian folksongs,  
for four-part chorus (ATRB) with echo and tenor soloist *a cappella*

One morning in May, by chance I did rove,  
I sat myself down, by the side of a grove,  
And there did I hear: the sweet nightingale sing,  
I never heard so sweet as the birds in the spring.

All on the green grass I sat myself down,  
Where the voice of the nightingale echoed around,  
“Don’t you hear how he quivers the notes?” I declare,  
“No music, no songster with him can compare.”

Come all you young men, I’ll have you draw near,  
I pray you now heed me, these words for to hear,  
That when you’ve grown old, you may have it to sing,  
You never heard so sweet as the birds in the spring.

## Eric Banks

Composed for ÆDONIS in April 2006,  
with lyrics adapted by the composer.

*Dedicated to the members of ÆDONIS*

# The sweet nightingale

Eric Banks

Gently ♩ = 69

8

T solo

T echo

A

T

R

B

*mf*

One morn - ing in

*mp*

*mp* *mp* *mp*

din\* din\* din\* *simile* *simile* *simile*

\*Performance note: sing this syllable with a brief rounded vowel, and resonate on 'n,' to approximate the sound of a guitar.

6

T solo

T echo

A

T

R

B

May, by chance I did rove, I sat my - self

SAMPLE

11

T solo  
8 down, by the side of a grove, And there did I

T echo  
8

A

T

R

B

16

T solo  
8 hear: the sweet night - in - gale sing, I ne - ver heard so

T echo  
8

A

T

R

B

SAMPLE

21

T solo  
8  
sweet, I ne - ver heard so sweet, I ne - ver heard so sweet as the

T  
8

A

T  
8

R

B

26

T solo  
8  
birds in the spring.

T  
8

A

T  
8

R

B

SAMPLE

31

T solo

T echo

A

T

R

B

All on the green

din

din

din

36

T solo

T echo

A

T

R

B

grass I sat my - self down, Where the voice of the

*pp lontano*

All on the green grass I sat my - self down,

SAMPLE

41

T solo  
8  
night - in - gale e - choed a - round, "Don't you hear how he

T echo  
8  
Where the voice of the night - in - gale e - choed a - round,

A

T

R

B

46

T solo  
8  
qui - vers the notes?" I de - clare, "No mu - sic, no

T echo  
8  
"Don't you hear how he qui - vers the notes?" I de - clare,

A

T

R

B

SAMPLE

DO NOT PRINT

51

T solo  
8  
song - ster, no mu - sic, no song - ster, no mu - sic, no song - ster with

T  
8  
"No mu - sic, no song - ster, no mu - sic, no song - ster, no

A

T

R

B

56

T solo  
8  
him can com - pare." \_\_\_\_\_

T  
8  
mu - sic, no song - ster with him can com - pare." \_\_\_\_\_

A

T

R

B

**THIS FILE IS INTENTIONALLY  
INCOMPLETE.**

For the complete score  
please purchase a print licence.



©2015 Eric Banks