



I Took a Walk with Joy

for SATB choir

Music by Melissa Dunphy

Text by Mark A. Boyle

2024

3.5 min

*Commissioned for the Upper Arlington High School Symphonic Choir
Dr. Brandon Moss and Dr. David Monseur, directors*

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I took a walk with Joy today
With hopes our concord would increase.
Sweet Joy (not having much to say)
Delighted in the sudden peace.

Not one for idle prose
They chose instead to contemplate
Each arching tree. Each blooming rose
Received its time and slowed our gait.

After what seemed like hours
My silent friend, with practiced care,
Then paused among a field of flowers
And picked a modest daisy there.

Resplendent Joy now turned to me
With simple blossom now in hand
And offered it, midst floral sea,
In hopes that I might understand:

When searching long for Joy, it seems
It can be found in a lofty place,
More often, though, it's wild and free,
And waits to bless the humblest face.

—Mark A. Boyle

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Andante $\text{♩} = c.100$

Musical score for Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass, and Reduction, measures 1-4. The score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is Andante, approximately 100 beats per minute. The dynamics are marked *mf* (mezzo-forte). The lyrics are: "I took a walk with Joy to-day, I took a walk with Joy to-day, I took a walk, a walk with Joy to-day, I took a walk, a walk with".

Musical score for Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass, and Reduction, measures 5-8. The score continues from the previous page. The dynamics are marked *p* (piano) and *fp* (fortissimo piano). The tempo is marked *poco rit.* (poco ritardando). The lyrics are: "Joy to-day, oh I took a walk with Joy, I took a walk with Joy. Joy to-day, I took a walk with Joy, I took a walk with Joy. Joy to-day, oh I took a walk with Joy, I took a walk with Joy. Joy to-day, I took a walk, a walk with Joy to-day, a walk with Joy." The score ends with a *p* dynamic and a *poco rit.* marking.

A *a tempo*

S. *mp*
I took a walk with Joy to-day, with hopes our con - cord would in-crease.

A. *mp*
I took a walk with Joy to-day, with hopes our con - cord would in-crease.

T. *mp*
I took a walk with Joy with hopes our con - cord would in-crease.

B. *mp*
I took a walk with Joy in hopes our con - cord would in-crease.

A *a tempo*

S. *mf* ————— *f*
Sweet Joy, sweet Joy de - light-ed in the sud-den peace.

A. *f*
Sweet Joy, not hav-ing much to say, de-light-ed in the sud-den peace.

T. *f*
Sweet Joy not hav-ing much to say, de-light-ed in the sud-den peace.

B. *mf* ————— *f*
I took a walk with Joy, Sweet Joy de - light-ed in the sud-den peace.

17

B *p*

S. Not one for i - dle prose, they_ chose in - stead to

A. *p*
Not one for i - dle prose, they chose ___ in - stead to

T. *p*
Not_ one for i - dle prose, they chose in - stead to

B. *p*
Not_ one for i - dle prose, they chose in - stead to

21

S. con - tem - plate each arch - ing tree. Each bloom - ing rose re - ceived its time

A. con - tem - plate each arch - ing tree. Each bloom - ing rose re - ceived its time and

T. con - tem - plate each arch - ing tree. Each rose re - ceived its time and

B. con - tem - plate each arch - ing tree. Each rose re - ceived its time and

25 C *f*

S. and slowed our gait. I took a walk with Joy to-day, -

A. slowed our gait. I took a walk with Joy to-day, -

T. slowed our gait. I took a walk with Joy to-day, -

B. slowed our gait. I took a walk, a walk with Joy to-day, - I took a

30

S. I took a walk with Joy to - day, - oh sweet Joy, I took a

A. I took a walk with Joy, sweet Joy, sweet Joy,

T. I took a walk with Joy to - day, - I took a walk with Joy to-day, - I took a

B. walk, a walk with Joy to-day, I took a walk, a walk with Joy to-day, - I

34

S. walk, took a walk with Joy. Af - ter what seemed like hours, my si-lent

A. I took a walk with Joy. Af - ter what seemed like hours, my

T. walk, took a walk with Joy. Af - ter what seemed like hours, my_

B. I took a walk with Joy. Af - ter what seemed like hours, my

D

p

38

S. friend, with prac-ticed care, paused a-mong a field of flow-ers and

A. si-lent friend, my si-lent friend paused a-mong a field and

T. si-lent friend, with prac-ticed care, paused a-mong a field of flow-ers and

B. si - lent friend paused a-mong a field and



rit. a tempo

42

S. *mp* picked a mod - est dai - sy there. *mf* Res-plend-ent

A. *mp* picked a mod - est dai - sy there. *mf* Res-plend-ent Joy now

T. *mp* picked a dai - sy there. *mf* Res-plend-ent Joy now

B. *mp* picked a dai - sy. Res - plend - ent Joy now

mp *mf*

rit. a tempo

46

S. Joy _____ *mp* of-fered it a-midst a

A. turned to me_ with sim-ple blos - som now in hand and of-fered it a-midst *mp*

T. turned to me_ with sim-ple blos - som now in hand and of-fered it a-midst a *mp*

B. turned to me_ with blos-som now in hand and of - fered it a - *mp*

mp

50

S. flor - al sea, in hopes that I might un - der stand:

A. a flor - al sea, in hopes that I might un - der

T. flor - al sea, in hopes that I, that I might un - der

B. midst a flor - al sea, in hopes that I might un - der -

p

54 rit. F a tempo

S. when search-ing long for Joy, it seems, it can be found in a loft-y place,

A. stand: when search-ing long for Joy, it seems, it can be found in a loft-y place,

T. stand: when search-ing long for Joy, it can be found,

B. stand: when search-ing long for Joy, it can be found in a

mf

rit. F a tempo

59

S. more of-ten though, it's wild and free, and waits to bless the hum - blest

A. more of-ten though, it's wild and free and waits to

T. more of-ten though, it's wild and free, and waits to bless the hum - blest

B. loft-y place, more of-ten though, it's wild and free and waits to

64

S. face. _____ Oh _____ I took a walk with

A. bless _____ the hum - blest face. Oh _____ I took a walk

T. face, the hum - blest face. _____ I took a

B. bless the hum - blest face. I took a walk, a walk with

70

S. Joy to - day, a walk with Joy to - day, a

A. with Joy to - day, with Joy to - day, a

T. walk with Joy, a walk with Joy to - day, a

B. Joy to-day, I took a walk, a walk with Joy to-day, I took a walk, a walk with Joy to-day, I

75

S. walk with Joy. **H** *f* I took a walk with Joy, I took a

A. walk with Joy. *f* I took a walk with Joy to - day, -

T. walk with Joy. *f* I took a walk with Joy to - day, -

B. took a walk with Joy, *f* I took a walk with Joy, a walk with Joy to - day, I took a

H

79

S. walk with Joy, — took a walk with Joy, a walk with Joy,

A. I took a walk with Joy to-day, oh I — took a walk with Joy to-day,

T. I took a walk with Joy to-day, oh I — took a walk with Joy, —

B. walk, a walk with Joy to-day, I took a walk, a walk with Joy, with

83

S. *fp* ————— *p* ————— *f* *rit.* ————— *f*
 with Joy, I took a walk with Joy, a walk with Joy.

A. *fp* ————— *p* ————— *f*
 Joy, ————— I took a walk with Joy, a walk with Joy.

T. *fp* ————— *p* ————— *f*
 Joy, ————— I took a walk with Joy, a walk with Joy.

B. *fp* ————— *p* ————— *f*
 Joy, ————— I took a walk ————— with Joy.

rit. ————— *f*