

# A WALK IN THE WOODS

## for Soprano or Mezzo-soprano and Piano

Lyrics by  
**RACHEL CARSON**  
Music by  
**BRUCE TRINKLEY**

### A WALK IN THE WOODS

*The call of the trail on that dewy May morning  
was too strong to withstand.  
The sun was barely an hour high  
and Pal and I  
set off for a day of our favorite sport  
following the beauty of the spring.*

*The bobwhite's nest,  
and the oriole's aerial cradle,  
and the jewel-like eggs of the yellow throat  
all waited to be discovered.*

*Till the setting sun transformed the sky  
into a sea of blue and gold  
and a vesper-sparrow sang his evening lullaby.*

*The day is full of beauty.  
The earth is full of life.  
And we turned slowly homeward  
gloriously tired,  
gloriously happy.*

***A Walk in the Woods* is from *One Life*, a cantata based on the life and writings of Rachel Carson. She was born near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 1907 and attended the Pennsylvania College for Women, now Chatham College. She worked as a biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Her major writings are *Silent Spring*, *Under the Sea-wind*, *The Sea Around Us*, and *The Edge of the Sea*. *Silent Spring* was the first publication to expose the dangers of pesticides and launched the ecology movement in America. Rachel Carson died of cancer in 1964.**

**Rachel wrote the text to *A Walk in the Woods* when she was 14 years old. The prose piece was published in the children's magazine *St. Nicholas* in 1922.**

# A Walk in the Woods

For Soprano or Mezzo-Soprano and Piano

Rachel Carson

Adapted by Jason Charnesky

Bruce Trinkley

**Andante espressivo**  $\text{♩} = 72$

**Voice**

**Piano**

*mf* *mp* *p* *mp*

*freely but moving ahead* *cresc. poco a poco*

call of the trail on that dew-y May mor-ning was too strong to with-stand. The sun was bare-ly an

*mp colla voce* *dim.* *cresc. poco a poco*

*mf* *mf* *con pedale*

hour high and Pal and I set off for a day of our fa-vor-ite sport

\*Opening motif based on the song of a small bird heard in the live oaks on the Santa Rosa Plateau in southern California

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15 *mp* fol-low-ing the beau - ty of the spring. *mf* The

19 bob - white's nest, and the o - ri - ole's aer - i - al cra - dle, and the

22 *poco allarg.* *mp a tempo* jewel-like eggs of the yel - low throat all wait - ed to be dis-

25 *mp serenely dim.* as quietly as possible cov - ered. Till the set - ting sun trans - formed the

29

sky in - to a sea of blue and gold

34

*espressivo* *poco allarg. very warmly*

and a ves - per-spar - row sang his eve - ning lul - la -

*poco allarg.*

*espressivo*

39

**Andante con moto** ♩ = 76-80

*mp* *mp with great warmth*

by. The day is full of beau - ty. The

*mp languorously* *p*

43

*molto cresc.*

earth is full of life. And we turned slow - ly home - ward

*molto cresc.*

47 *f*  
glo - ri - ous - ly tired, glo - ri - ous - ly

50  
hap - py.

*ff* rapturously *mf*

53 *ff* glo - ri - ous - ly hap - py. glo - ri - ous - ly *f*

56 *allargando*  
tired, *allargando*