

# **Incantation**

*for unaccompanied, mixed voices*

**Joelle Wallach**

(1997)

*commissioned by the Collegiate Choir of  
Illinois Wesleyan University  
F.Scott Ferguson, conductor*



# Incantation

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*Illinois Wesleyan University*  
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The peace of great doors be for you,  
 Wait at the knobs, at the panel oblongs.  
 Wait for the great hinges.

The peace of great churches be for you,  
 Where the players of loft pipe organs  
 Practice old lovely fragments, alone.

The peace of great books be for you,  
 Stains of pressed clover leaves on pages,  
 Bleach of the light of years held in leather.

The peace of great prairies be for you.  
 Listen among windplayers in cornfields,  
 The wind learning over its oldest music.

The peace of great seas be for you.  
 Wait on a hook of land, a rock footing  
 For you, wait in the salt wash.

The peace of great mountains be for you,  
 The sleep and the eyesight of eagles,  
 Sheet mist shadows and the long look across.

The peace of great hearts be for you,  
 Valves of the blood of the sun,  
 Pumps of the strongest wants we cry.

The peace of great silhouettes be for you,  
 Shadow dancers alive in your blood now,  
 Alive and crying, "Let us out, let us out."

The peace of great changes be for you.  
 Whisper, Oh beginners in the hills.  
 Tumble, Oh cubs — tomorrow belongs to you.

The peace of great loves be for you.  
 Rain, soak these roots; wind, shatter the dry rot.  
 Bars of sunlight, grips of the earth, hug these.

The peace of great ghosts be for you.  
 Phantoms of night-gray eyes, ready to go  
 To the fog-star dumps, to the fire-white doors.

Yes, the peace of great phantoms be for you,  
 Phantom iron men, mothers of bronze...

*Carl Sandburg*

Carl Sandburg Joelle Wallach

$\text{♩} = 80$

Soprano *mp* The peace of great doors be for

Alto *mp* The peace of great hearts, — be for you, great doors be for

Tenor *mp* The peace of great hearts, the peace — of great doors be for

Bass *mp* The peace — of great hearts, — be for you, great doors — be for —

3

you. O, wait at the knobs, at the pa-nel ob-long. Wait

you. O, wait at the knobs, at the pa-nel ob-long. Wait

you. O, wait at the knobs, at the pa-nel ob-long. Wait

you. O, wait at the knobs, at the pa-nel ob-long. Wait, wait

6

for the great hin-ges. The peace of great chur-ches be for you, where

for the great hin-ges. The peace of great chur-ches be for you, where

for the great hin-ges. The peace of great chur-ches be for you, where

for the great hin-ges. The peace of great chur-ches be for you, where

9

play-ers of or-gan pipes prac-tice old love-ly frag-ments a-lone. The

play-ers of or-gan pipes prac-tice old love-ly frag-ments a-lone. The

play-ers of or-gan pipes prac-tice old love-ly frag-ments a-lone. The peace,

play-ers of or-gan pipes prac-tice old love-ly frag-ments a-lone. The peace,

12

peace of great books be for you, stains of pressed clo-ver leaves on

peace of great books be for you, stains of pressed clo-ver leaves on

peace of great books be for you, the stains of pressed clo-ver leaves on

peace of great books be for you, the stains of leaves, pressed leaves, on

15

pa-ges. The peace of great prai-ries be for

pa-ges, light of years held in lea-ther. The peace of great prai-ries be for

pa-ges, light of years held in lea-ther. The peace of great prai-ries be for

pa-ges, light of years in lea-ther. The peace of great prai-ries be for

18

you. Lis-ten a-mong wind play-ers in corn-fields, the wind

you. Lis-ten a-mong wind play-ers in corn-fields, the wind

you. Lis-ten a-mong wind play-ers in corn-fields, the wind

you. Lis-ten a-mong play-ers in corn-fields, the wind

21

learn-ing o - ver a - gain its old - est mu - sic. The peace of great seas be for you.

learn-ing o - ver a - gain its old - est mu - sic. The peace of great seas be for you.

learn-ing o - ver a - gain its old - est mu - sic. The peace of seas be for you.

learn-ing o - ver, o - ver a - gain its old - est mu - sic. The peace of great seas be for you.

25

Wait on a hook of land, a rock foot - ting. Wait.. The peace

Wait on a hook of land, a rock foot - ting wait The peace

Wait on a hook of land, a rock foot - ting wait, The peace

Wait on a hook of land, a foot - ting wait wait. The peace

28

of great moun-tains be for you, the sleep of eag - les, the

of moun-tains be for you, the sleep and the eye - sight of eag - les, the

of moun-tains be for you, for you, the sleep and the eye - sight of eag-les, the

of great moun-tains be for you, for you, the sleep and the eye - sight of eag - les, the

31 *poco f* *subito p*

sheet mist, sha-dows and the long look ac - ross. The peace of great hearts

sheet mist sha-dows and the long look ac - ross. The peace of great hearts

sheet mist sha-dows and the long look ac - ross. The peace of great hearts

sheet mist, sha-dows and the long look ac - ross. The peace of great hearts

34 *mp* *(mf)*

be for you, valves of blood of the sun, pumps of the strong-est

be for you, valves of blood of the sun, valves, pumps of the strong-est

be for you, the valves, valves of blood of the sun, valves, pumps of the strong-est

be for you, the valves, valves of blood of the sun, pumps of the

37 *mp dolce e poco misterioso* *subito p* *mf*

wants we cry. The peace of great sil-hou-ettes be for you, sha - dow

wants we cry. The peace of great sil-hou-ettes be silhou-ettes sha - dow

wants we cry. The peace of great sil-hou-ettes be sil - hou - ettes sha - dow

wants we cry. — The peace of great sil-hou-ettes be sil - hou - ettes sha - dow

40

*ben f* *p* *ma ruvido*

dan - cers — a - lone in your blood now, a - live — and cry - ing, "let us

*ben f*

dan - cers — a - lone in your blood — now a - live, a - live — and cry - ing,

*ben f* *sotto voce pp*

dan - cers — a - lone in your blood — now a - live, — live — and cry - ing, "Let us out, —

*ben f* *sotto voce pp*

dan - cers a - lone — in your blood — now, a - live, — cry - ing, "Let us out, —

43

*poco p dolce, like a new beginning*

out" *pp ma ruvido* The peace of great chan-ges be for you, whis -

*poco p dolce, like a new beginning*

"let us out, let us out" The peace of great chan-ges be for you, whis -

*pp ma ruvido* *ppp almost a whisper* *poco p dolce, like a new beginning*

let us out, let us out, let us out." — The peace — of great chan-ges be for you, — whis - per,

*pp ma ruvido* *ppp almost a whisper* *poco p dolce, like a new beginning*

let us out, let us out, let us out." — The peace of great chan-ges be for you, whis - per,

46

per, oh, — be - gin - ners in the hills, trem - ble, — oh cubs, to - mor - row.

per, oh, — be - gin - ners - in the hills, — oh cubs, oh cubs, to - mor - row.

whis - per, oh, — be - gin - ners in the hills, — trem - ble, — oh cubs, oh cubs, to - mor - row.

whis - per, oh, — be - gin - ners in the hills, trem - ble, trem - ble, oh — cubs, — to - mor - row.



49

be-longs to you The peace of great loves be for you.

be-longs to you The peace, the peace of great loves be for you.

be-longs to you. The peace of great loves be for you. oh,

be-longs to you, to you. The peace of great loves be for you. oh,

52

Rain soak these roots; wind shat - ter the dry rot. Huge bars of sun-light, grips

Rain soak these roots; wind shat - ter the dry rot, dry rot. Huge bars of sun-light, grips

rain soak these roots; wind shat - ter the dry rot. Huge bars of sun-light, grips

rain soak these roots; wind shat - ter the dry rot, dry rot. Huge bars of sun light, grips

55

of the earth. The peace of great ghosts be for you, The peace of great phan-toms be for

of the earth. The peace of great ghosts be for you, The peace of great phan-toms be for

of the earth. The peace of great ghosts be for you, The peace of great phan-toms be for

of the earth. The peace of ghosts be for you, The peace of great phan-toms be for

58 *mf* (divisi) *p dolce* the peace of great love

you, phan - tom ir - on men, wo - men of bronze,

*mf* *mp dolce*

you, those phan - tom ir - on men, wo - men of bronze, The

*mf* (divisi) *p dolce* the peace of great love

you, those phan - tom ir - on men, wo - men of bronze,

*mf* *mp dolce*

you, those phan - tom ir - on men, wo - men of bronze, The

61 *tutti al fine* *p*

be for you; The peace of great hearts be for you;

peace of great love be for you; the peace of great hearts be for you, for you; —

*tutti al fine*

be for you; love be for you; the peace of great hearts be for you, for you; —

*mp*

peace of great love be for you, for you; the peace of great hearts be for you; —

64 *mf*

great changes, great hearts, great loves be for you; —

*mf*

great changes, great hearts, great loves be for you; —

*mf*

great changes, great hearts, great loves, the peace of great doors —

*mf*

great changes, great hearts, great loves, the peace of great doors —

67 *p* the peace of great doors be for you. *sfz* Wait \_\_\_\_\_ for the peace of great doors.

*p* the peace of great doors — be for you. *sfz* Wait \_\_\_\_\_ for great doors. *p* The peace of great love

*p* the peace \_\_\_\_\_ be for you. *sfz* Wait \_\_\_\_\_ for the peace of great doors. *p* The peace of great love

doors — be for you. — Wait \_\_\_\_\_ for great doors. \_\_\_\_\_

71 *sfz* *fp* *mfp* *p* *ppp* *pp*

Wait! Wait! Wait! Wait! Wait... The peace of great doors be for

be for you. *sfz* *fp* *mfp* *p* *ppp* *pp* Wait! Wait! Wait... The peace of great doors be for

be for you. *sfz* *fp* *mfp* *p* *ppp* *pp* Wait! Wait! Oh, Wait! Wait! — Wait... The peace of great doors be for

Wait! Wait! Wait! Wait! Wait... The peace of great doors be for

76 *p* you. The peace of great loves be for you. \_\_\_\_\_

*p* \_\_\_\_\_ *ppp* *sotto voce*

you. *p* great loves be for you. The peace of great hearts be for you,

you. The peace of great loves — be for you. \_\_\_\_\_

*p* \_\_\_\_\_ *ppp* *sotto voce*

you. great loves be for you. The peace of great hearts be for you,