

# Why the Caged Bird Sings

*for treble voices, horn and strings*

## Sympathy

I know what the caged bird feels, alas!  
When the sun is bright on the upland slopes,  
When the wind blows soft through the springing grass  
And the river floats like a sheet of glass,  
When the first bird sings and the first bud opens,  
And the faint perfume from its chalice steals -

I know what the caged bird feels.  
I know why the caged bird beats his wing  
Til its blood is red on the cruel bars;  
For he must fly back to his perch and cling.

...I know why he beats his wing  
When his wings are bruised and his bosom sore, -  
When he beats his bars and would be free;

It's not a carol of joy or glee,  
But a prayer the he sends from his heart's deep core,  
But a plea that upward to Heaven he flings -  
I know why the caged bird sings!

*Paul Lawrence Dunbar (1872-1906)*

Paul Lawrence Dunbar

Joelle Wallach

$\text{♩} = 84$  Cantabile

Horn  
in F

*mp cantabile*

I  
Violin

II

*mp dolce cantabile*

*mp dolce cantabile*

Viola

*mp dolce cantabile*

'Cello

*mp dolce cantabile*

Bass

*mp*

(divisi)

(divisi)

(divisi)

(divisi)

(unis.)

(unis.)

(ossia 8va)

6 **Soprani** *mp*

**Alti** *mp*

I know what the caged bird feels, al-as! \_\_\_\_\_ When the sun is bright up-on the up-land slopes,

I know what the caged bird feels, I know what the caged bird feels, The sun is bright up-on the up-land slopes,

*mp* *dolce ma poco più f*

6 *divisi.* *unis.*

*divisi* *unis.*

*divisi* *unis.*

12

Ah, \_\_\_\_\_ the caged bird feels When \_\_\_\_\_ the wind blows soft through the spring-ing grass —

I know what the caged bird feels When \_\_\_\_\_ the wind blows soft through the spring-ing grass —

*mp cantabile*

12

*mp* *p ben dolce*

*mp* *p ben dolce*

*sfp mp* *p*

[illegible]

27 *mf* caged bird feels. — *mp cantabile* I know

*mf* caged bird feels. — *mp cantabile* I know

(poco agitato) *sfp* *sfp* *sfp*

27 *mp* *mf* *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp* *p cantabile misterioso* *mp* *mp* *(mp)*

32 *mf* how the caged bird feels; oh, I know why he beats his wings, when the sun — is bright and the wind . blows soft.

*mf* how the caged bird feels; oh, I know why he beats his wings; when the sun — is bright and the wind \_ blows soft.

*mp cantabile*

32 *mp*

37

I know how the caged bird feels when the sun — shines bright and the wind — blows soft. I know why the caged bird sings. —

I know how when — the sun shines bright and the wind blows soft. — I know why the caged bird sings. —

(mp) (mp)

37

42

*mp* I know why the caged bird sings and beats his wings on the bars, *f*

*mp* I know why the caged bird sings and beats his wings on the bars, *f*

*mf* ma cantabile

42

*poco f dolce cantabile* *subito p* *mp* *mf*

*poco f dolce cantabile* *subito p* *mp* *mf*

*poco f dolce cantabile* *divisi* *(unis.)* *subito p* *mp* *mf*

*poco f dolce cantabile* *subito p* *mp* *mf*

*mp* *fp* *subito p* *mp* *mf*

[illegible]

59

*mf* *mf* *mf*  
piangere e poco lontano

con sordino  
*p* dolce placido

*mf* *p* (*p*) lontano  
*mf* *p* (*p*) lontano  
*mf* *p* (*p*) lontano  
*mf* *p* (*p*) lontano  
pizz. *p* (*p*) lontano  
pizz. *mf* cantabile *poco*  
*mp* *p* *mf* cantabile

66

*p* dolce *mf*  
I know why the caged bird sings. I know why he beats his wings, a gainst the bars. -

*p* dolce *mf*  
I know why I know why he beats his wings, a gainst the bars. -

*mp* cantabile *mp* cantabile

66

*fp* *mp* *mp*  
*fp* *mp* *mp*  
*fp* *mp* *mp*  
*mf* *mp* (*mp*) *mp*  
*p* *mp* *fp* *mp*

72 *mp* I know how the caged bird feels, *mp dolce* I know how the caged bird feels; oh,

*mp* I know how the caged bird feels, *mp dolce* I know how the caged bird feels; oh,

*sfz p* *sfp* *mf*

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

77 *(dolce)* I know why he beats his wings, when the sun is bright and the wind blows soft. *mf* It's not a cry of joy or glee, *f*

*(dolce)* I know why he beats his wings; when the sun is bright and the wind blows soft. *mf* It's not joy or glee, *f*

*senza sord.* *mp* *mf* *mp* *fp* *f* *f* *f* *f* *f* *sfz* *mf*

77 *f* *f* *f* *f* *f* *f* *f* *f* *f* *sfz* *mf*



82

*(s) subito p dolce* but a pray'r, a plea, *mp* a pray'r. from his heart's deep core, *(mp)* Up to heav'n — he

*(s) subito p dolce* but a pray'r, a plea, *mp* a pray'r. from his heart's deep core, *(mp)* Up to heav'n — he

*subito p dolce* *mfpp lontano* *mfpp* *mfpp* *mp cantabile*

82

*subito p dolce* *mp* *mp* *mp* *p* *mp* *p*

87

*mf* *e più placido* flings his prayer. I. know why the caged bird sings. —

*mf* *e più placido* flings his prayer. I. know why the caged bird sings. —

*mf cantabile* *subito p* *sfp* *sfp* *mp dolce cantabile*

87

*mp dolce* *mp dolce cantabile* *mp* *mp* *mp* *(mp) dolce cantabile* *sfp* *p*

93

*sfp sfp sfp*

*mf (unis.) mp dolce*

*mf (unis.) mp dolce*

*mf mp dolce*

*mp*

*(mp)*

*p*

98

ossia con sordino al fine

*mp lontano cantabile*

*pp dolce lontano*

*mp ppp*

*mp ppp*

*mp ppp*

*mp ppp*

*divisi*

*divisi*

*divisi*

*divisi*

*sfp pp mp*

*sfp ppp pp*

# Why the Caged Bird Sings

**Horn**  
in F

$\text{♩} = 84$  *cantabile*

Joelle Wallach

*mp cantabile* *(mp)*

4 *piano* *(mp)* 2

10 sopranos *dolce ma poco più f* *mp cantabile*

16 *p* *sfp* *poco agitato piangere*

20 *mfp* *mfp* *mp cantabile*

24 *sfp* *(poco agitato)* *sfp* *mfp*

27 *sfp* *(poco agitato)* *sfp* *sfp*

31 voices *mp cantabile*

35 sopranos  
(*mp*)

40 sopranos  
(*mp*) 3 sopranos

47  
*mf* ma cantabile *mf* più ruvido *f* *mf*

51 sopranos  
*p* cantabile *fp* lontano cantabile

55 piano  
*mp* dolce

60 piano  
*mf p* piangere e poco lontano *mf p* *mf p*

63 con sordino  
piano *p* dolce placido *mp* cantabile

68 sopranos  
*mf* ma cantabile

73 sopranos  
*sfz p* *sfz p* *mf* 2

78 sopranos senza sord.

*mp* *mf* *mp* *f*

82 *subito p dolce* *mfpp lontano* *mfpp* *mfpp* *mp cantabile*

86 *mf cantabile* *subito p* *sfp* *sfp*

90 *mp dolce cantabile* *piano*

95 *sfp* *sfp* *sfp* *piano*

99 *mp lontano cantabile* *p dolce lontano*

ossia con sondino al fine

**Contrabass**

# **Why the Caged Bird Sings**

***for treble choir, horn and strings***



**Joelle Wallach**

# Why the Caged Bird Sings

for treble voices, horn and strings

♩=84 Cantabile

Joelle Wallach

Contrabass

Horn

*mp*

(ossia 8va)

5

11

'cello

*sfp mp*

*p*

18

'cello

*mp sfzp mp*

23

Horn

*p*

*mp*

*mp mfzp*

29

*p cantabile misterioso*

*mp (mp)*

'cello

35

41

*mp*

*fp*

*subito p*

'cello

98

*sfp* *pp* *mp* *sfp* *sfpp* *ppp* *pp* *pp*

divisi



**'Cello**

# **Why the Caged Bird Sings**

***for treble choir, horn and strings***



**Joelle Wallach**

# Why the Caged Bird Sings

for treble voices, horn and strings

Joelle Wallach

**Cello**  $\text{♩} = 84$  Cantabile

Horn  $\text{♩} = 84$  Cantabile

(divisi)

*mp dolce cantabile*

6

11

16

*mp cantabile*  $\text{poco}$  *sfp*  $\text{poco}$

21

*p* *mp*

26

*mp*  $\text{poco}$  *mf* *p cantabile misterioso*

30

*mp*

34

38 *poco f dolce cantabile*

43 *divisi (unis.) subito p subito mp mf*

48 *mp f mf mp* *Horn* *pizz.*

53 *arco mf mp fp* *Horn* *poco*

58 *mp mf p (p)*

64 *mf cantabile mf mp*

69 *(mp) mp*

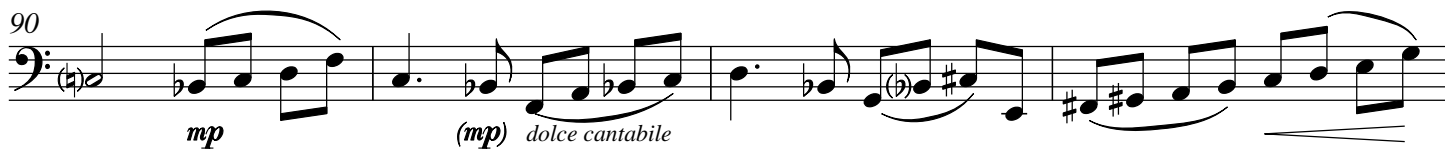
73 *mf mp* *violin I 8va*

78 *sfz f p* *Horn*

84



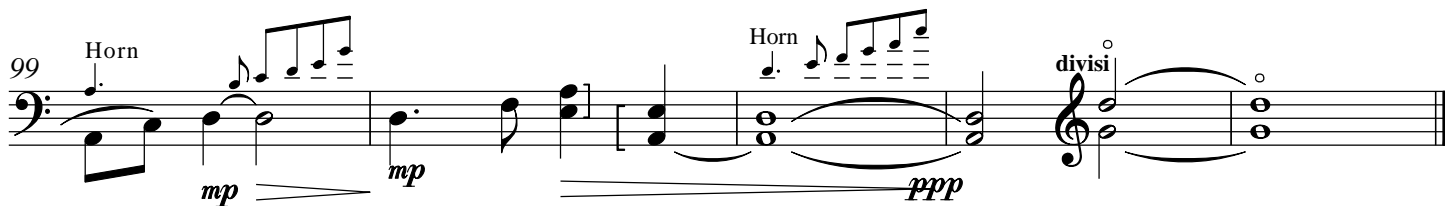
90



94



99



**VIOLIN I**

# **Why the Caged Bird Sings**

***for treble choir, horn and strings***



**Joelle Wallach**

# Why the Caged Bird Sings

*for treble voices, horn and strings*

Joelle Wallach

**Violin I**  $\text{♩} = 84$  Cantabile

Horn *mp dolce cantabile*

(divisi) unis.

4

10 *mp*

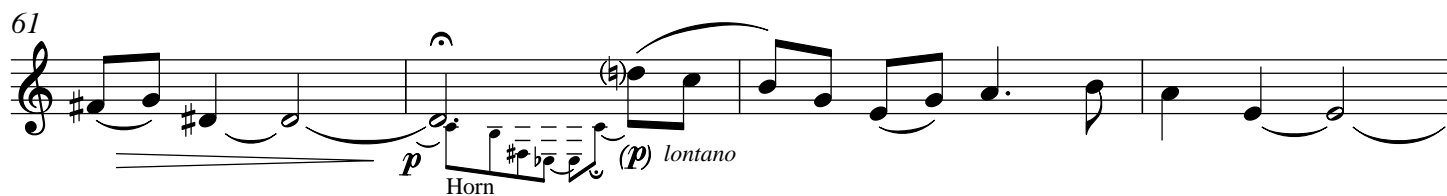
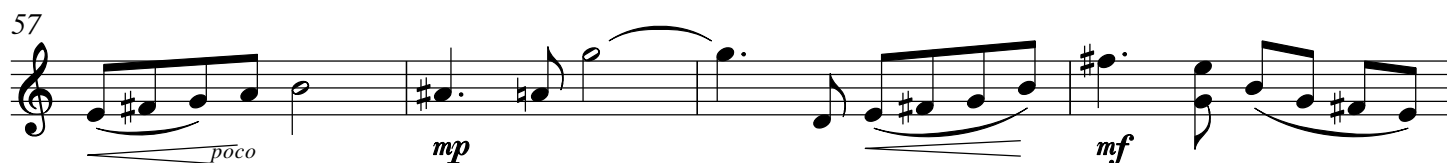
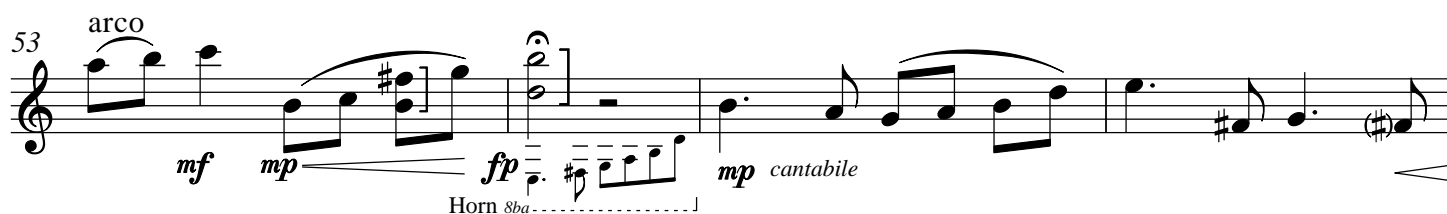
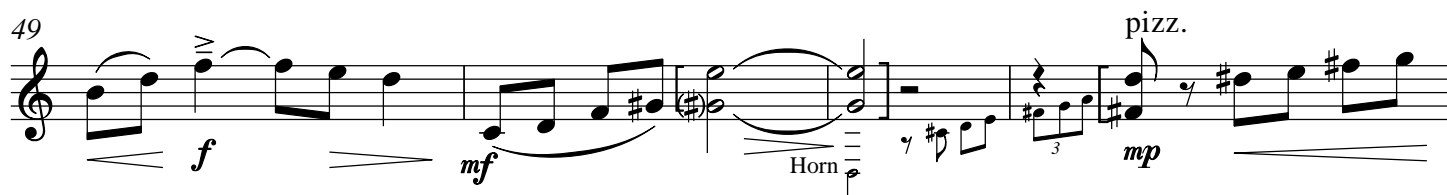
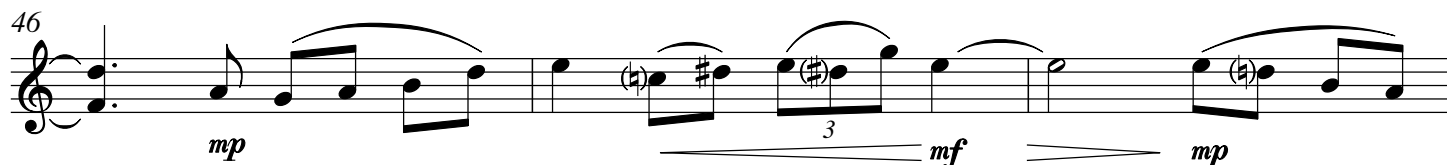
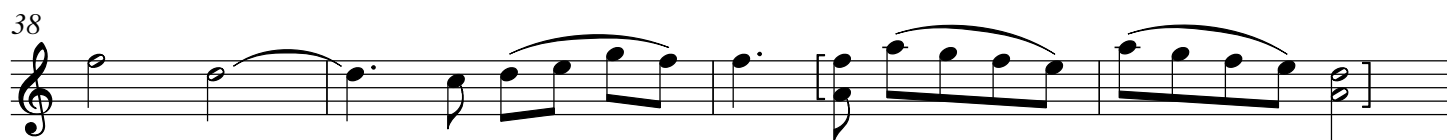
15 *p ben dolce*

20 *mp poco*

24 *p mp (mp) mfp*

29 *mp* cello 8ba

33



75

viola *mp*

80

*f* > subito *p dolce* Horn

84

*mp* Horn

88

*mp dolce* Horn *mp dolce cantabile*

93

(div.) (unis.) *mf* *mp dolce* violin II *mf*

98

Horn *mp* *ppp* divisi



**VIOLIN II**

# **Why the Caged Bird Sings**

***for treble choir, horn and strings***



**Joelle Wallach**

# Why the Caged Bird Sings

*for treble voices, horn and strings*

Joelle Wallach

**Violin II**  $\text{♩} = 84$  Cantabile

*mp dolce cantabile*

4 (divisi) unis.

9 (divisi) unis. *mp*

13 *p ben dolce*

18 *mp poco*

22 *p mp*

27 *mp mf mp* 'cello 8ba.....

31

35

39

43

48

52

56

60

64

70

*subito p*

*mp*

*mf*

*poco f*

*dolce cantabile*

*pizz.*

*arco*

*poco*

*mf*

*p*

*(p) lontano*

*fp*

*mp*

Horn

75

viola *mp*

80

Horn *f* > subito *p* dolce *mp*

85

*mp* dolce

89

*mp*

93

(unis.) *mf*

96

*mp* dolce (b)

99

Horn *mp* *ppp* divisi

**VIOLA**

# **Why the Caged Bird Sings**

***for treble choir, horn and strings***



**Joelle Wallach**

# Why the Caged Bird Sings

*for treble voices, horn and strings*

Joelle Wallach

**Viola**  $\text{Horn}$   $\text{Cantabile}$   $\text{mp}$  *dolce cantabile*  $\text{divisi}$   $\text{unis.}$

5 (unis.)  $\text{divisi}$   $\text{unis.}$

11

18  $\text{mp}$  *poco*

23  $\text{mp}$  *poco*  $\text{mp}$

28  $\text{mf}$   $\text{mp}$  *cello*

34

39 *poco*  $\text{f}$  *dolce cantabile*

43 *subito*  $\text{p}$   $\text{mp}$   $\text{mf}$

48 *mp* *mf* *mp* *pizz.* *3*

53 *arco* *mf* *mp* *fp* *Horn sba* *mp cantabile* *'cello* *poco*

58 *mp* *mf* *p* *(p) lontano*

63 *'cello* *fp* *Horn*

69 *mp* *mp* *p*

74 *Horn* *sfz* *mp*

80 *f* *subitop* *mp*

85 *Horn* *mp* *p*

91 *mp* *mf* *Horn* *mp dolce*

97 *Horn* *mp* *ppp* *divisi*

When the sun is bright up - on the up - land slopes,  
what the caged bird feels, The sun is bright up on the up land slopes,

*dolce ma poco più **f***

Ah, \_\_\_\_\_ the caged bird feels When \_\_\_\_ the wind blows soft through the spring-ing grass \_\_\_\_  
I know what the caged bird feels When \_\_\_\_ the wind blows soft through \_\_\_\_ the spring-ing grass \_\_\_\_

***mp** cantabile*

When the ri-ver floats like sheets of glass,  
When the ri-ver floats like sheets of glass,

***p** ben dolce*

***sfp** poco agitato piangere*



20

*mp dolce*

When the first bird sings and the first bud o -

*mp dolce*

When the first bird sings and the first bud o -

*mf* *mf* *mp cantabile*

23

*mf* *mf* *mf*

pens, And the faint per - fume from its cha - lice steals, Ah, what the

pens, And the faint per - fume from its cha - lice steals, I know what the

*sfp* *(poco agitato)* *sfp* *mf*

27

*mf* *mf*

caged bird feels. —

caged bird feels. —

*sfp* *(poco agitato)* *sfp* *sfp* *mp* *mf*

31

*mp cantabile* *mf*

I know how the caged bird feels; oh, I know why he beats his wings, when the

*mp cantabile* *mf*

I know how the caged bird feels; oh, I know why he beats his wings; when the

35

sun \_\_\_\_\_ is bright and the wind \_\_\_\_\_ blows soft. I know how the caged bird

sun \_\_\_\_\_ is bright and the wind \_\_\_\_\_ blows soft. I know

*(mp)*

38

feels when the sun \_\_\_\_\_ shines bright and the wind \_\_\_\_\_ blows soft. I know why the caged bird sings. —

how when \_\_\_\_\_ the sun shines bright and the wind blows soft. \_\_\_\_\_ I know why the caged bird sings. —

*(mp)*

42

*poco **f** dolce cantabile* *subito **p***

46

*mp* I know why the caged bird sings and beats his wings on the bars, *f* Why he beats his *mp*

*mp* I know why the caged bird sings and beats his wings on the bars, *f* Why he beats his *mp*

*mf* *ma cantabile* *mf* *più ruvido*

49

*ben **f** e poco ruvido* wings un - til blood is red on the cruel (-el) bars.

*ben **f** e poco ruvido* wings un - til blood is red on the cruel (-el) bars.

*f* *mf* *p cantabile*

*p sotto voce*

52

*p* suddenly very dainty *growing much stronger* *f*

for he must hop back to his perch and cling — when he'd hoped to fly.

*p* suddenly very dainty *growing much stronger* *f*

for he must hop back to his perch and cling — when he'd hoped to fly.

*mp* *fp* *lontano cantabile*

55

*p* *cantabile* *mp dolce*

*poco*

59

*mf p* *mf p* *mf p* *piangere e poco lontano*

*mf* *p* *lontano*

63

*con sordino* *p* *dolce placido*

*mf p* *cantabile* *fp*

67

*p dolce* I know why the caged bird sings. *mf* I know why he beats his

*p dolce* I know why *mf* I know why he beats his

*mp cantabile* *mp cantabile*

71

wings, a gainst the bars. *mp* I know how the caged bird feels,

wings, a gainst the bars. *mp* I know how the caged bird feels,

*sfz p*

74

*mp dolce* I know how the caged bird feels; oh, I know why he beats his

*mp dolce* I know how the caged bird feels; oh, I know why he beats his

*sfz p* *mf*

78

*(dolce)*

wings, when the sun is bright and the wind blows soft.

wings; when the sun is bright and the wind blows soft

*senza sord.*

*mp* *mf*

81

*mf* *f* *subito p dolce*

It's not a cry of joy or glee, but a pray'r, a plea,

*mf* *f* *subito p dolce*

It's not joy or glee, but a pray'r, a plea,

*mp* *fp* *subito p dolce* *mfpp lontano* *mfpp*

*sfz* *f* *subito p*

84

*mp* *(mp)*

a pray'r from his heart's deep core, Up to heav'n he flings his prayer.

*mp* *(mp)*

a pray'r from his heart's deep core, Up to heav'n he flings. his prayer.

*mfpp* *mp cantabile* *mf cantabile*

88

*mf* *e più placido*

I. know why the caged bird sings.

*mf* *e più placido*

I. know why the caged bird sings.

*subito p*

*sfp* *sfp* *mp dolce cantabile*

*mp dolce* *mp*

91

99

*mp* lontano cantabile

*p* dolce lontano

*mf*

*p*

*(p)*

# Why the Caged Bird Sings

**Horn**  
in F

$\text{♩} = 84$  *cantabile*

Joelle Wallach

*mp cantabile* *(mp)*

4 *piano* *(mp)* 2

10 sopranos *dolce ma poco più f* *mp cantabile*

16 *p* *sfp* *poco agitato piangere*

20 *mfp* *mfp* *sopranos* *mp cantabile*

24 *sfp* *(poco agitato)* *sfp* *mfp*

27 *sfp* *(poco agitato)* *sfp* *sfp*

31 voices *mp cantabile*



35 sopranos  
(*mp*)

40 sopranos  
(*mp*) 3 sopranos

47  
*mf* ma cantabile *mf* più ruvido *f* *mf*

51 sopranos  
*p* cantabile *fp* lontano cantabile

55 piano  
*mp* dolce

60 piano  
*mf p* piangere e poco lontano *mf p* *mf p*

63 con sordino  
piano *p* dolce placido *mp* cantabile

68 sopranos  
*mf* ma cantabile

73 sopranos  
*sfz p* *sfz p* *mf* 2

78 sopranos senza sord.

*mp* *mf* *mp* *f*

82 *subito p dolce* *mfpp lontano* *mfpp* *mfpp* *mp cantabile*

86 *mf cantabile* *subito p* *sfp* *sfp*

90 *mp dolce cantabile* *piano*

95 *sfp* *sfp* *sfp* *piano*

99 *mp lontano cantabile* *p dolce lontano*

ossia con sondino al fine

HORN in F

# Why the Caged Bird Sings

*for treble choir, horn and piano*



Joelle Wallach

HORN in F

# Why the Caged Bird Sings

*for treble choir, horn and strings*



Joelle Wallach

# Why the Caged Bird Sings

**Horn** in F Joelle Wallach

$\text{♩} = 84$  *cantabile*

*mp cantabile* *(mp)*

4 *piano* *(mp)* 2

10 sopranos *dolce ma poco più f* *mp cantabile*

16 *p* *sfp* *poco agitato piangere*

20 *mfp* *mfp* *mp cantabile*

24 *sfp* *(poco agitato)* *sfp* *mfp*

27 *sfp* *(poco agitato)* *sfp* *sfp*

31 voices *mp cantabile*