

Deep River

AN EXPLORATION OF SPIRITUALS

April 2, 2020

WELCOME

Ms. Calebria Webb

READING

"From the Dark Tower"
Countee Cullen (1903-1946)

We shall not always plant while others reap the golden increment of bursting fruit, not always countenance, abject and mute, that lesser men should hold their brothers cheap; not everlastingly while others sleep shall we beguile their limbs with mellow flute, not always bend to some more subtle brute; we were not made to eternally weep. The night whose sable breast relieves the stark, white stars is no less lovely being dark, and there are buds that cannot bloom at all in light, but crumple, piteous, and fall; so in the dark we hide the heart that bleeds, and wait, and tend our agonizing seeds.

INTRODUCTION OF SOLOIST

SPIRITUAL

Weepin' Mary

Spiritual, arr. Harry T. Burleigh
Calebria Webb, mezzo-soprano

If there's anybody here like weepin' Mary, call upon your Jesus, an' He'll draw nigh.
O, glory, glory hallelujah! Glory be to my God, who rules on high!

SPIRITUAL

Ride On, King Jesus!

Spiritual, arr. Hall Johnson
Calebria Webb, mezzo-soprano

Ride on, King Jesus! No man can-a hinder me. Ride on, King Jesus, ride on! No man can-a hinder me.
For He is King of kings, He is Lord of lords, Jesus Christ, de first an' las', no man works like Him.
King Jesus rides a milk white horse, no man works like Him. De river of Jerdin He did cross, no man works like Him. King Jesus rides in de middle o' de air, He calls de saints from everywhere.
He is de King, He is de Lord! Jesus Christ, de first an' las', no man works like Him!
Ride on, Jesus!

DISCUSSION

*What do hear in the spiritual? What do you hear in the art song?
What do they have in common? How do they differ?
Does one feel more familiar to you, or are you drawn to one, more than*

the other?

CLOSING REFLECTION AND PRAYER

