

Weary Willie

(Golden Crowned Sparrow)

Peggy L'Hoir

Freely - take your time

8va-
4

Depress LH black keys and hold till barline

2 Leisurely ♩ = 92

p

5

ritenuto *freely*

8va-
4

6 Tempo Giusto

mp

LH over LH over

2

Weary Willie

8

LH over

LH over

10

mf

5

8^{va}₄

freely

12

mp

5

8^{va}₄

freely

14

a tempo

Tap RH rhythm on piano with pencil or hand

p

calando

16

15^{ma}₄

ppp

The Golden Crowned Sparrow



We find the haunting tune of the Golden Crowned Sparrow in our Northern forest area, as well as nesting in Alaska and all across Western Canada. In summer, we can also hear this beautiful, minor-key whistle in open scrubby areas near tree lines.

Miners in the Yukon at the turn of the twentieth century woefully referred to the Golden Crowned Sparrow as the “No Gold Here” bird, because its song resembled that depressing phrase. They also interpreted its song to say “I’m so tired”, prompting them to dub the bird “Weary Willie”.

Take your time performing this “I’m so tired” tune at the sections marked “freely” and follow the other tempo directions carefully. The percussion at the end is intended to reflect the tapping of branches together in the breeze.

As you take this musical walk through the forest, enjoy the subtle harmony changes, the melancholy melody and of course, the haunting tune of the Golden Crowned Sparrow that is woven throughout.

Peggy ♪