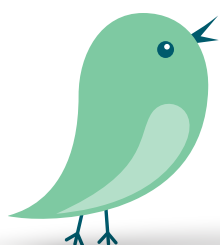


Choral  
Series  
for Young  
People



# Keep Me in Your Heart

Janèt Sullivan Whitaker

Preview

# Keep Me in Your Heart

Janèt Sullivan Whitaker

**INTRO** (♩ = ca. 100)

F Fadd9 F Fadd9

Piano

The piano introduction consists of four measures in 3/4 time. The right hand plays a melody of quarter notes: F4, G4, A4, Bb4, A4, G4, F4. The left hand plays a bass line of quarter notes: F3, G3, A3, Bb3, A3, G3, F3. Chords are indicated above the staff: F, Fadd9, F, Fadd9.

## VERSES

1. Je - sus, \_\_\_\_\_ hold me in peace; keep me \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. Je - sus, \_\_\_\_\_ you are my life; keep me \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. Je - sus, \_\_\_\_\_ morn - ing will come; keep me \_\_\_\_\_

F Eb6 Bb

The first verse is set in 3/4 time. The vocal line has three lines of lyrics. The piano accompaniment features chords F, Eb6, and Bb. The melody consists of quarter and half notes.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ in your heart. \_\_\_\_\_ Let me \_\_\_\_\_ know your mer - cy; \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_ in your heart. \_\_\_\_\_ Fill me \_\_\_\_\_ with your cour - age; \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. \_\_\_\_\_ in your heart. \_\_\_\_\_ Raise me \_\_\_\_\_ with each new day; \_\_\_\_\_

Bbm F Bb F

The second verse continues the melody. The piano accompaniment features chords Bbm, F, Bb, and F. The lyrics are aligned with the notes.

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1. \_\_\_ keep me \_\_\_\_\_ in your heart. \_\_\_\_\_ Je - sus, \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_ keep me \_\_\_\_\_ in your heart. \_\_\_\_\_ Some-times \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. \_\_\_ keep me \_\_\_\_\_ in your heart. \_\_\_\_\_ Je - sus, \_\_\_\_\_

B $\flat$  C sus4 C F

1. \_\_\_ you are my hope. Help me \_\_\_\_\_ when the dark -  
 2. \_\_\_ sor - rows will come. Je - sus, \_\_\_\_\_ you are al -  
 3. \_\_\_ teach me to love. Faith - ful \_\_\_\_\_ let me al -

E $\flat$ 6 B $\flat$  B $\flat$ m F

1. ness comes. In your kind - ness, \_\_\_\_\_ keep me \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. ways near. In my sad - ness, \_\_\_\_\_ keep me \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. ways be, 'cause you love me. \_\_\_\_\_ Keep me \_\_\_\_\_

A7 B $\flat$  F/C B $\flat$

1. \_\_\_ in your heart. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_ in your heart. \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. \_\_\_ in your heart. \_\_\_\_\_

B $\flat$ m F Fadd9 F Fadd9 D.S. Final F Fadd9

# Keep Me in Your Heart

(Guitar/Vocal)

Janèt Sullivan Whitaker

INTRO (♩ = ca. 100)

Capo 3: (D) F (Dadd9) Fadd9 (D) F (Dadd9) Fadd9

(Pno)

## VERSES

(D) F (C6) Eb6 (G) Bb

1. Je - sus, \_\_\_\_\_ hold me in peace; keep me \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. Je - sus, \_\_\_\_\_ you are my life; keep me \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. Je - sus, \_\_\_\_\_ morn - ing will come; keep me \_\_\_\_\_

(Gm) Bbm (D) F (G) Bb (D) F

1. \_\_\_\_\_ in your heart. \_\_\_\_\_ Let me \_\_\_\_\_ know your mer - cy; \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_ in your heart. \_\_\_\_\_ Fill me \_\_\_\_\_ with your cour - age; \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. \_\_\_\_\_ in your heart. \_\_\_\_\_ Raise me \_\_\_\_\_ with each new day; \_\_\_\_\_

(G) Bb (Asus4) C sus4 (A) C (D) F

1. \_\_\_\_\_ keep me \_\_\_\_\_ in your heart. \_\_\_\_\_ Je - sus, \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_ keep me \_\_\_\_\_ in your heart. \_\_\_\_\_ Some - times \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. \_\_\_\_\_ keep me \_\_\_\_\_ in your heart. \_\_\_\_\_ Je - sus, \_\_\_\_\_

(C6) Eb6 (G) Bb (Gm) Bbm (D) F

1. \_\_\_\_\_ you are my hope. Help me \_\_\_\_\_ when the dark -  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_ sor - rows will come. Je - sus, \_\_\_\_\_ you are al -  
 3. \_\_\_\_\_ teach me to love. Faith - ful \_\_\_\_\_ let me al -

(F#7) (G) (D/A) (G)  
A7 Bb F/C Bb

1. ness comes. In your kind - ness, \_\_\_\_\_ keep me \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. ways near. In my sad - ness, \_\_\_\_\_ keep me \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. ways be, 'cause you love me. \_\_\_\_\_ Keep me \_\_\_\_\_

(Gm) (D) (Dadd9) (D) (Dadd9) Final  
Bbm F Fadd9 F Fadd9 (D) (Dadd9)  
F Fadd9 F Fadd9

1. \_\_\_\_\_ in your heart. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_ in your heart. \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. \_\_\_\_\_ in your heart. \_\_\_\_\_

Preview

## Composer Notes

This song was written for a 10-year-old boy named Jordan, the solitary child of Sheri King, a single mother who died from cancer at the age of 33. In the months before her passing, I sat with Sheri to help her plan her funeral service. During our time together, she spoke of the faith she had shared with her son, and how close they were. I knew that Jordan would face unimaginable fear and grief with his mother's death. When Sheri died, I wrote this song for him to remind him that even when he feels alone in the world, he is in the loving heart of Jesus who promises to offer comfort, courage, and help with his doubt and fear. At Sheri's funeral Mass, the song was sung by Jordan's 12-year-old cousin.

A few years later, OCP asked me to contribute a song to their upcoming hymnal for children, *Never Too Young*. I asked if there might be room for a song to help children with grief, and they kindly made room for "Keep Me in Your Heart." Since then, I have shared the song with many faith formation catechists, several of whom have included it as part of preparation for the First Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Sometimes I sing this song as a solo in concerts. But I have noticed that when children sing it with and for adults, it becomes a powerful reminder that grief spares no one: vulnerability, fear, and sadness are all part of life no matter how young or old we are. And in his love, the kindness of God waits for each of us in the heart of Jesus, where consolation and courage are there to help us through our darkest hour.

Sing this song simply and quietly. I have refrained from the urge to embellish it with harmonies and solo instrument flourishes, simply because it was born to be sung from a place of solitary, individual struggle. May this song be a simple blessing to you in yours.

—Janet Sullivan Whitaker

Preview

## Assembly Edition

KEEP ME IN YOUR HEART

Janet Sullivan Whitaker

1. Je - sus, hold me in peace; keep me in your  
 2. Je - sus, you are my life; keep me in your  
 3. Je - sus, morn - ing will come; keep me in your

1. heart. Let me know your mer - cy; keep me  
 2. heart. Fill me with your cour - age; keep me  
 3. heart. Raise me with each new day; keep me

1. in your heart. Je - sus, you are my hope.  
 2. in your heart. Some - times sor - rows will come.  
 3. in your heart. Je - sus, teach me to love.

1. Help me when the dark - ness comes. In your  
 2. Je - sus, you are al - ways near. In my  
 3. Faith - ful let me al - ways be, 'cause you

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1. kind - ness, keep me in your heart.  
 2. sad - ness, keep me in your heart.  
 3. love me. Keep me in your heart.

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