

For the Prairie High School Concert Choir, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Michael Reese, Conductor
and their June 21, 1998 performance at Washington National Cathedral.

Wade in de Water

Traditional Spiritual

arr. Allen Koepke

With great energy ♩-c. 120

Alto 1

Alto 2

Baritone Bass

Wade in de wa - ter, chil-dren, wade in de wa - ter. Wade in de wa - ter, chil-dren, wade in de wa - ter. Wade in de wa - ter, chil-dren, wade in de wa - ter.

* Bass may sing baritone as alternate notes, m. 1-8

A

T

B

wade in de wa - ter. Wade in de wa - ter, chil-dren, wade in de wa - ter.

Tenors *p* Oh wade, in, Oh *mp*

wade in de wa - ter. Wade in de wa - ter, chil-dren, wade in de wa - ter.

S

A

T

B

Wade in de wa - ter, chil-dren, wade in de wa - ter.

Wade in, oh (slide) Wade in de wa - ter, chil-dren, wade in de wa - ter, chil-dren, wade in de wa - ter.

Wade in, oh (slide) Wade in de wa - ter, chil-dren, wade in de wa - ter, chil-dren, wade in de wa - ter.

wade, in, Oh Wade in de wa - ter, chil-dren, wade in de wa - ter, chil-dren, wade in de wa - ter.

Wade in de wa - ter, chil-dren, wade in de wa - ter. Wade in de wa - ter, chil-dren, wade in de wa - ter, chil-dren, wade in de wa - ter.

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10 chil dren oh wade in, 11 de wa ter, 12 *f* de wa ter,

chil dren oh wade in, de wa ter,

chil dren oh wade de wa ter,

chil dren oh wade in de wa ter,

Detached
13 chil dren, 14 *mf* wade in de wa, wade in de wa, wade in de wa ter, wa ter 15 *mf* wade in de wa, wade in de wa, wade in de wa ter, wa ter

chil dren, wade in de wa, wade in de wa, wade in de wa ter, wa ter

wade, wade in de wa, wade in de wa, wade in de wa ter, wa ter

Wade in de wa ter, chil dren wade in de

16 wa ter, 17 chil dren, God is gon na trou ble de wa ter. 18 *mf* wa ter, my Lord,

Alto 1 *tutti* *mf* wa ter, chil dren, God is gon na trou ble de wa ter, my Lord,

wa ter, God is gon na trou ble de wa ter, my Lord,

wa ter, God is gon na trou ble de wa ter.

19 *mf* (Mm) trou ble in de wa ter, 20 (Woo) 21 (*fast scoop*)

my Lord.

mf trou ble, trou ble, trou ble in de wa ter, (Ten. 2) de wa ter, wa ter,

mf trou ble, trou ble, trou ble in de wa ter, de wa ter, wa ter,

22 23 24

Wade in de wa ter, chil dren, chil dren wade.

Wade in de wa ter, chil dren, chil dren wade.

wa ter, chil dren. Wade in de wa ter, chil dren, chil dren wade.

wa ter, chil dren.

25 26 27 *legato* *mp*

oo and not de soul

ppp (oo) *mf* chills de bo dy,

mf *mp*

and not de soul

chills, chills de bo dy,

mf

Ri ver Jor dan,

mf *mp* *f*

Well, de

Well, de Ri ver Jor dan is so

f

Well, de Ri ver Jor dan is so chil ly an' cold, (opt.)

f

Chills de bo dy but not de soul.

Ri ver Jor dan is so chil ly an' cold, but not de soul.

chil ly an' cold, bo dy but not de soul.

bo dy but not de soul.

*Directions for m. 37-39: Begin with Bass (1.) and continue adding and repeating parts upward as indicated.

*8. Riv er Jor dan's chil ly, so chil ly.

*7. Trou ble, trou ble, God's gon na trou ble.

*6. Chil dren, chil dren, wade in de wa ter.

*5. Ri ver Jor dan Jor dan is chil ly.

*4. Trou ble, trou ble, God's gon na trou ble.

*3. Wa ding in de wa ter, my chil dren.

*2. (heel stomp)

*1. God's gon na trou ble de wa ter.

(heel stomps on b. 1&2; silence b. 3&4)

40 Wade in de wa ter, chil dren, chil dren wade.

41

42

Wade in de wa ter, chil dren, chil dren wade.

Wade in de wa ter, chil dren, chil dren wade.

Wade in de wa ter, chil dren, chil dren wade.

Wade in de wa ter, chil dren, chil dren wade.

43 *p* *ff* m. 44 through m. 56: finger snaps by ALL on beats 2 and 4

p *Alto 2 mp lightly* *

Do do doot do doot doot do

* Don't actually pronounce the "t" in doot. The "t" is there to provide a feeling of staccato or space between the notes.

47 48 49

mp Do doot do doot do do

mf If you get there be be

Alto 1 *mf* If you get there be

(*simile*) (*simile*)

mp lightly *mp*

Do doot (*simile*) do doot doot do do doot (*simile*)

do doot (*simile*) (*opt.*)

doot do

50 51 52

mp fore I do, just

fore I do,

mf trou ble, there's gon na be trou ble in de wa ter,

mf trou ble, there's gon na be trou ble in de wa ter,

mf trou ble, there's gon na be trou ble in de wa ter,

53 54 55

tell my friends I'm a com in' too. Trou ble, trou ble,

mp Do etc. *mf* Trou ble, trou ble,

mp Do etc. *mf* Trou ble, trou ble,

mp Do etc. (*opt.*) *mf* Trou ble, trou ble,

56 *Stop all finger snaps* *f* 57 58

trou ble in de wa ter. Wade in de wa ter, wa ter, chil dren,
 trou ble in de wa ter. *f* Wade in de wa ter, wa ter,
 trou ble in de wa ter. *f* Wade in de wa ter, chil dren,
 trou ble in de wa ter. *f* Wade in de wa ter, wa ter, chil dren,

59 60 61

wade in de wa ter, my chil dren, *f* Wade in de
mf wade in de wa ter, wa ter, my chil dren, *f* Wade in de
mf wade in de wa ter, wa ter, my chil dren, *f* Wade in de
mf wade in de wa ter, wa ter, my chil dren, *f* Wade in de

62 63 64

wa ter.
 wa ter.
 wa ter. *mp* God's gon na trou ble de wa ter,
 wa ter, chil dren. *subito mp* God's gon na trou ble de wa ter,

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- ble de wa ter. *mp* Wade in de wa, wade in de wa, wade in de wa ter, chil dren,
 - ble de wa ter. *mp* Wade in de wa, wade in de wa, wade in de wa ter, chil dren,
 - ble de wa ter.
 - ble de wa ter.

wade in de wa, wade in de wa, wade in de wa ter, chil dren, *f* wade in de wa ter, chil dren, *rit.* wade in de
 wade in de wa, wade in de wa, wade in de wa ter, chil dren, wade in de wa ter, chil dren, *rit.* wade in de
 wade in de wa, wade in de wa, wade in de wa ter, chil dren, wade in de wa ter, chil dren, *rit.* wade in de
 wade in de wa ter, chil dren, *f* *rit.* wade in de

Wade in de wa ter, chil dren,

wa - ter... My Lord, oo trou-ble in de wa - ter...

chil - dren wade... My Lord, my Lord.

wa - ter... My Lord, my Lord.

wa - ter... My Lord, my Lord.

chil - dren wade... My Lord.

Tempo markings: *Slowly*, *Even slower*, *Very deliberately*. Dynamics: *ff*, *ff*, *ff*. Performance instructions: *(slide)*, *(b)*.

*Bend notes as indicated on the 2nd sixteenth note of beat 3 with 1st soprano, then return to original note immediately (with 1st soprano rhythm).

About the arranger

Allen Koepke, (b. 1939) has been a music educator in Iowa since 1960. A graduate of Luther College, Decorah, Iowa, with an M.A. from the University of Northern Iowa, Allen is Professor Emeritus of Choral Music at Kirkwood College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa where he was awarded the "1996 Iowa Professor of the Year" by the Carnegie Institute. He currently spends much of his time as a clinician, adjudicator and composer. He has over fifty published compositions.

Performance notes from the arranger

1. Be continually aware of the shift from the dorian mode to the natural and melodic forms of the minor scale. These alterations all occur on the sixth and seventh scale degrees.
2. Accents should occur on most off-beat notes, especially on obvious syncopations. Accents were omitted from the score to help keep it uncluttered.
3. The style dictates that the speech not be over-articulated. "Water" should lean toward "wah-dih," the second vowel somewhere between "dih" and "duh." Similarly, "de" should be formed with the same vowel sound found in the French "je" or "le"—NEVER "dee." "Body" should lean toward "bah-dih" and "cold" should be "cole" with a silent D.
4. In the last two measures, the clash between the first soprano and alto on the word "trouble" is intentional. Emphasize this.
5. The bend in m. 76 needs to be synchronized with the first soprano as indicated. It should be no more than a half-step and should sound neither rushed nor labored. Work for a natural "dip" and immediate "rebound."
6. Conducting suggestion for ms. 37–39: Use one large, slow beat for m. 37, one medium-sized, faster beat for m. 38, and one small, quick beat for m. 39. Each time during the repeats a large downbeat in m. 37 should insure everyone staying together during this twenty seconds of mayhem over the "trouble in de water."
7. The chorus should be conservative with the intensity of the heel stomps, especially when on risers. An overly aggressive stomp may sound exciting, but it may bring down the choir rather than the house.

Range

S1 S2 A1 A2 T1 T2 B1 B2

Recording

by the University of Northern Iowa Chorale,
Bruce Chamberlain, conductor

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