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Kirsten Johnson

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What The Swallows Did

by Louisa May Alcott

Swallow, swallow, neighbor swallow,
Starting on your autumn flight,
Pause a moment at my window,
Twitter softly your good-night;
For the summer days are over,
All your duties are well done,
And the happy homes you builded
Have grown empty, one by one.
Swallow, swallow, neighbor swallow,
Are you ready for your flight?
Are all the feather cloaks completed?
Are the little caps all right?
Are the young wings strong and steady
For the journey through the sky?
Come again in early spring-time;
And till then, good-by, good-by!

What The Swallows Did

Louisa May Alcott
(1832-1888)

Kirsten Johnson

Soaring ♩ = 96

mf

Coloratura Soprano
Swal-low, swal-low, neigh-bor swal-low! Swal-low, swal-low,

Lyric Soprano
Swal-low, swal-low, neigh-bor swal-low! Swal-low, swal-low,

Mezzo-soprano
Swal-low, swal-low, neigh-bor swal-low! Swal-low, swal-low,

Soaring ♩ = 96

mf

Piano reduction
(rehearsal only)

4

neigh-bor swal-low! Swal-low, Swal-low,

neigh-bor swal-low! Swal-low, Swal-low

neigh-bor swal-low! Swal-low, Swal-low,

7

Swal-low, Swal-low, Swal - low,
 Swal-low, Swal-low, Swal-low, neigh-borswal-low!
 Swal-low, Swal-low, swal-low neigh-borswal-low!

10

swal - low neigh - bor swal-low!
 Swal - low, swal - low neigh - bor swal-low!
 Swal - low, swal - low neigh - bor swal-low!

13

f Swal-low, swal-low, neigh-bor swal - low!

f Swal-low, neigh-bor swal - low!

f Neigh-bor swal - low! *mf* Start-ing on your au-tumn flight,

16

mf Start-ing on your au-tumn flight, Pause a mo - ment.

mf On your au-tumn flight, Pause a mo - ment.

au-tumn flight, Pause a mo - ment.

19

mp At my win - dow. *p* Twit-ter soft-ly your good-night;

mp At my win - dow.

mp At my win - dow.

mp *p*

24

mp Twit-ter, twit-ter soft-ly your good night. For the sum-mer days are o - ver,

p Twit-ter, twit-ter soft-ly your good night. *mp* For the sum-mer days are o - ver,

p Twit-ter, twit-ter soft-ly your good night. *mp* For the sum-mer days are o - ver,

p *mp*

27

Musical score for measures 27-28. It features four staves: three vocal staves and one piano accompaniment staff. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "All your du - ties are well done, And the hap - py homes you build - ed". The dynamic marking is *mf*. There are hairpins indicating a crescendo and decrescendo across the vocal lines.

29

Musical score for measures 29-32. It features four staves: three vocal staves and one piano accompaniment staff. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The time signature changes from 4/4 to 2/4 at measure 29 and back to 4/4 at measure 30. The lyrics are: "have grown emp - ty one by one. One by one. One by one." The dynamic marking is *mp* and includes a *rit.* (ritardando) instruction. The piano accompaniment includes a *mf* marking.

33

p *mp*

Swal-low, Swal-low, Swal-low,

p *mp*

Swal-low, Swal-low, Swal-low,

p *mp*

Swal-low, Swal-low, Swal-low,

p *mp*

36

mf *f*

Swal-low, Swal-low,swal-low, neigh-bor swal-low! Swal-low,swal-low,

mf *f*

Swal-low, Swal-low,swal-low, neigh-bor swal-low! Swal-low,swal-low,

mf *f*

Swal-low, Swal-low,swal-low, neigh-bor swal-low! Swal-low,swal-low,

mf *f*

40

neigh-bor swal-low! Are you ready for your flight? Are you ready for your flight? Ready for your flight? For your flight?

43

all the feath-er cloaks com-plet-ed? Are the lit-tle caps all right? Feath-er cloaks com-plet-ed? Are the lit-tle caps all right? Cloaks com-plet-ed? Are the lit-tle caps all right?

45

Are the young wings strong and steady for the journey through the sky?

Are the young wings strong and steady for the journey through the sky?

Are the young wings strong and steady for the journey through the sky?

47

mf Are you ready for your flight?

mf Are you ready for your flight? Ready for your flight?

mf Are you ready for your flight? Are

49

Are all the feath - er cloaks com - plet - ed? Are the lit - tle caps all the feath - er cloaks com - plet - ed? Are the lit - tle caps all right?

51

caps all righ - t? Are the lit-tle caps all right?
 righ - - t? Are the lit-tle caps all right?
 Are the caps all right? Are the lit-tle caps all right?

56 *mf*

Are the young wings strong and steady for the journey through the sky?

Are the young wings strong and steady for the journey through the sky?

Are the young wings strong and steady for the journey through the sky?

mf

58 *f*

For the journey through the sky? For the journey through the sky?

For the journey through the sky? For the journey through the sky?

For the journey through the sky? For the journey through the sky?

f

61 *mp*

Come a - gain in ear - ly spring-time; and till then, good - by, good - by!

Come a - gain in ear - ly spring-time; and till then, good - by, good - by!

Come a - gain in ear - ly spring-time; and till then, good - by, good - by!

mp

63 *mf*

Come a - gain in ear - ly spring-time; and till then, good - by, good - by!

Come a - gain in ear - ly spring-time; and till then, good - by, good - by!

Come a - gain in ear - ly spring-time; and till then, good - by, good - by!

mf

65 *molto rit.* *p* *mp*

By, good-by! By, good - by! Swal-low, Swal-low,

molto rit. *p* *mp*

By, good-by! By, good - by! Swal-low, Swal-low,

molto rit. *p* *mp*

By, good-by! By, good - by! Swal-low, Swal-low,

molto rit. *p*

68 *mf* *f*

Swal - low, Swal - low, Swal - low, swal - low,

mf *f*

Swal - low, Swal - low, Swal - low, swal - low,

mf *f*

Swal - low, Swal - low, Swal - low, swal - low,

mf *f*

70

neigh - bor swal - low! Swal - low, swal - low, neigh - bor swal - low!

neigh - bor swal - low! Swal - low, swal - low, neigh - bor swal - low!

neigh - bor swal - low! Swal - low, swal - low, neigh - bor swal - low!

72

mp Come a - gain in ear - ly spring-time; *mp* Come a - gain in ear - ly spring-time;

mp Come a - gain in ear - ly spring-time; *mp* Come a - gain in ear - ly spring-time;

mp Come a - gain in ear - ly spring-time; *mp* Come a - gain in ear - ly spring-time;

75

mf *f*

Come a - gain in ear - ly spring-time; Come a - gain in

mf *f*

Come a - gain in ear - ly spring-time; Come a - gain in

mf *f*

Come a - gain in ear - ly spring-time; Come a - gain in

mf *f*

78

p

ear - ly spring-time; And till then, - - -

slight rit. p

ear - ly spring-time; And till then, - - -

slight rit. p

ear - ly spring-time; And till then, - - -

slight rit. p

82

f
Good - by! Good - by! Good - by!

f
Good - by! Good - by! Good - by!

f
Good - by! Good - by! Good - by!

f