

Land of Lincoln

Abraham Lincoln, the 16th president of the United States, lived in Springfield, Illinois for 25 years.

On the morning of February 11, 1861, Lincoln and his family went to the city train depot to depart for their new life in the White House. Before he boarded the special presidential train, he paid tribute to the huge crowd that had gathered to see him off. His unforgettable speech is known today as the Farewell Address and reads, in part, "My friends, no one, not in my situation, can appreciate my feeling of sadness at this parting. To this place, and the kindness of these people, I owe everything. Here, I have lived a quarter of a century, and have passed from a young to an old man. Here my children have been born, and one is buried. I now leave, not knowing when, or whether ever, I may return, with a task before me greater than that which rested upon (George) Washington. I bid you an affectionate farewell."

Bernadine Johnson

With grandeur (♩ = 96)

Tenderly, with expression (♩ = 69)

Prairie Morning

Illinois has more people than any other Midwestern state in the United States. Most of the state's population is found in and around Chicago; however, millions live in the smaller cities around the state and on farms that are scattered across the rolling plains. The Illinois plains were once grassland called "prairies." These plains cover most of Illinois, thus earning it another nickname, the Prairie State.

Bernadine Johnson

Peaceful, unhurried (♩ = 48)

The musical score for "Prairie Morning" is written for piano and bass. It is in 6/8 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tempo is marked "Peaceful, unhurried" with a quarter note equal to 48 beats. The score is divided into four systems, with measure numbers 5, 9, and 13 marked in boxes.

System 1 (Measures 1-4): The right hand features a melodic line with fingerings 5, 4, 5, 3, 5, 4, 4, 5, 3, 2, 2, 3. The left hand provides harmonic support with fingerings 1, 5, 5, 2, 1, 5, 2, 1, 2, 5, 1, 4. Dynamics include *p*, *pp*, *mp*, and *p*.

System 2 (Measures 5-8): The right hand continues the melody with fingerings 2, 1, 2, 3, 5, 4, 5, 4, 1. The left hand has fingerings 1, 2, 5, 2, 1, 5, 2, 1, 2, 1. Dynamics include *mp* and *mf*.

System 3 (Measures 9-12): The right hand features a melodic line with fingerings 2, 1, 5, 5, 2, 5, 3, 2, 1, 2. The left hand has fingerings 2, 5, 5, 2, 1, 2. Dynamics include *pp*, *mf*, *p*, and *mf*. An *8va* marking is present under the first measure of the system.

System 4 (Measures 13-16): The right hand continues the melody with fingerings 2, 5, 5, 2, 2. The left hand has fingerings 2, 5, 2, 2. Dynamics include *p* and *mf*.

The Windy City

Chicago is the largest city in Illinois and the third largest in the United States. The city has been known by many nicknames, but "The Windy City" is the most widely recognized one. While there are many explanations for this particular nickname, the most popular one is the reference to the breezes from Lake Michigan, which borders Chicago. As far back the 1870s, Chicago billed itself as an ideal summer resort because of the cool breezes from the lake.

Bernadine Johnson

Blustery (♩ = 126)

System 1: Treble and Bass staves. Treble staff starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Bass staff has a *8va* marking. Dynamics include *f*, *mp*, and *cresc.*. Fingerings: 5, 3, 1, 2, 3, 1.

System 2: Treble and Bass staves. Treble staff starts with a forte (*f*) dynamic. Bass staff has a forte (*f*) dynamic. Dynamics include *f* and *mf*. Fingerings: 5, 2, 1, 2, 3, 4, 1.

System 3: Treble and Bass staves. Treble staff starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. Bass staff has a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. Dynamics include *mf*. Fingerings: 4, 3, 2, 3.

System 4: Treble and Bass staves. Treble staff starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. Bass staff has a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. Dynamics include *mf*. Fingerings: 2, 1, 4, 3, 1, 2, 1.