

Carry Me Home is a transportive arrangement that pairs two traditional spirituals, *Deep River* and *Swing Low, Sweet Chariot*. Available in three voicings for singers of all ages, it is appropriate for performance by both school and church choirs.

Swing Low, Sweet Chariot is considered by some to be the most famous spiritual of all time. Its message is the promise of freedom from life's suffering and pain, and it powerfully conveys the image of a "band of angels" coming to "carry me home" to eternal rest. The text relies upon the biblical reference to the Jordan River, over which the Israelites escaped from Egyptian bondage to Canaan, the "promised land."

Deep River also references both the Jordan River and the promised land and conveys a similar message of hope and peace for the weary traveler along life's journey. Its partnering with *Swing Low, Sweet Chariot* is an inspired match.

Carry Me Home is appropriate for school concerts in the spring or for special occasions celebrating American and African-American heritage. It is also appropriate for church choirs throughout the year, and especially for All Saints', funerals and memorial services, Lent and Transfiguration. Suggested corresponding lectionary readings include 2 Kings 2: 1-12a, Psalms 46 and 50, Mark 9: 2-9 and 10: 17-30, and Hebrews 4: 1-13.

Jean Anne Shafferman is Director of Church Choral Publications for Alfred Publishing Company. A graduate of the University of Kentucky with a B.M.E. in vocal music education and an M.A. in music theory, she is active as a church musician, clinician, and composer and has served as the Eastern Division Music in Worship Chairperson for the American Choral Directors' Association.

In memory of Fred Bock (1939-1998)

CARRY ME HOME

for S.A.B. voices, accompanied*

Arranged by
JEAN ANNE SHAFFERMAN

Incorporating *DEEP RIVER*
and *SWING LOW, SWEET CHARIOT*

Expressively, with freedom (♩ = ca. 66-69)

ACCOMP.

mp

4 BARITONE

5 *mp*

Swing low, sweet char - i - ot, —

7

com - in' for to carry me home. Swing - low, sweet

* Also available for S.A.T.B. voices, No. 18926, and 2-part any combination voices, No. 18928.

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10

poco rit.

a tempo

char - i - ot, — com-in' for to car-ry me home.

a tempo

poco rit.

13

16 UNISON WOMEN

mf

Deep ——— riv-er, my home is o - ver

mf

19

unis.

Jor - dan. O, deep ——— riv-er, Lord, I

22

want to cross o - ver in - to camp - ground.

24 S. 1 (*opt. solo*)
O, don't you want to go to that

S. 2, A.
Swing low, swing low,

B. *f*

26

gospel feast, that

unis. gospel feast, that

prom - ised land where all is

ff *dim.*

prom - ised land where all is

ff *dim.*

ff *dim.*

31 peace? *poco rit.* (end solo) **32** *a tempo* S. *mf unis.*

A. Deep riv - er, my

peace? *mf*

Swing low, sweet char - i - ot, —

a tempo

poco rit. *mf*

34 home is o - ver Jor - dan. O,

unis.

com - in' for to car - ry me home.

36 *mp*

deep riv - er, Lord, I

Swing low, sweet char - i - ot,

38 *molto rit.*

want to cross o - ver in - to camp - ground,

mp molto rit.

Red.

40 *p* *Slowly, freely* **Tempo I** *rit. e dim. al fine*

com - in' for to car - ry me home.

p *rit. e dim. al fine*

p *Slowly, freely* **Tempo I** *rit. e dim. al fine*

Red.



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