



# A song of dusk unfolding

for solo flute

by

Bonnie Mcalvin (ASCAP)

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Notes on performance:

“A song for dusk unfolding” is a work for standard open-hole flute, that makes extensive use of the special technique of multiphonics. To achieve the desired result, the multiphonics should be tuned to one another, and the pitches that form the multiphonics should be vivid and salient.

The fingerings are provided under each multiphonic; if a better fingering produces the same interval/same pitches/in the same octave, it can be substituted. Alternative fingerings can be found using Andrew Botros’ virtual flute app at <https://flute.fingerings.info>.

The symbols in the fingerings are as follows:

○ = open the key all the way

● = close the key all the way

◐ = close the key, but vent the open hole by some amount

When fingerings are vented, the flutist must experiment with different amounts of venting. Some vented fingerings work best by opening the entire vent hole, and others by venting just a tiny bit, and that tiny bit might be to the far left of the hole, or it might be to the far right, etc. Venting might also affect the two pitches differently, but a magical spot can be found for the finger that will allow both pitches to sing.

The fingering for A#/C#, marked with an asterisk (\*) is produced by controlling the left hand thumb key with the tip of the thumb (rather than the inside, fatty part of the thumb, as in traditional playing). By using the tip of the thumb, the key can be opened halfway, or some amount less than completely open. The A#/C# multiphonic will emerge when the key is approximately halfway opened (as long as the correct air speed and angles of blowing are found).

Many helpful tools regarding multiphonics, venting technique, and creating complex airstreams for multiphonics are available at the composer’s website. In addition, the composer is happy to help when possible; her contact info can be found at [www.bonniemcalvin.net](http://www.bonniemcalvin.net).

# A song for dusk unfolding

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Bonnie Mcalvin, 2022  
ASCAP

Slowly and freely, legato  
In many shades of dusk

*a tempo*

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 2/4 time signature. It consists of four systems of music, each with corresponding fingering diagrams below the notes.

- System 1 (Measures 1-7):** Starts with a *ppp* dynamic. The first measure has a whole note with a slur. The second measure has a quarter note with a slur. The third measure has a quarter note with a slur and a triplet of eighth notes. The fourth measure has a quarter note with a slur. The fifth measure has a quarter note with a slur. The sixth measure has a quarter note with a slur. The seventh measure has a quarter note with a slur. The *a tempo* marking appears above the eighth measure.
- System 2 (Measures 8-12):** Measure 8 has a quarter note with a slur. Measure 9 has a quarter note with a slur. Measure 10 has a quarter note with a slur. Measure 11 has a quarter note with a slur and a triplet of eighth notes. Measure 12 has a quarter note with a slur. Dynamics include *f* and *p*. The *piu mosso* and *rit.* markings appear above the measures.
- System 3 (Measures 13-15):** Measure 13 has a quarter note with a slur. Measure 14 has a quarter note with a slur and a triplet of eighth notes. Measure 15 has a quarter note with a slur. The *poco cedez* marking appears above the measures. The *a tempo* marking appears above the measures.
- System 4 (Measures 16-20):** Measure 16 has a quarter note with a slur. Measure 17 has a quarter note with a slur. Measure 18 has a quarter note with a slur. Measure 19 has a quarter note with a slur. Measure 20 has a quarter note with a slur. Dynamics include *f*, *p*, and *mf*. The *see notes* marking appears above the measures.