



Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

John Bacchus Dykes

♪ Niveau 40/100 (Ambitieux)

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Side Notes: The words to this hymn are often attributed to Saint Bernard of Clairvaux. The title of the poem is *Jesu Dulcis Memoria* or "Jesus Sweet Memory." One thing I try to do whenever I'm playing piano is think of a place, or a memory that I have that matches the music. I've found that when people simply play notes on a page, with no thought or feeling with the music, it isn't nearly as pleasant to play or listen to.

I'm not a piano teacher, but if I were, one of the things I would try to have my students realize is the importance of playing music with feeling - as if they were playing each song as a soundtrack to a movie or video game. As musicians, once we are able to recognize that music is really just a soundtrack, it changes how you approach music. Some of us realize that each of us has a soundtrack to our own life and are blessed with the gift to hear the musical soundtrack that is constantly around us. A few of us are able to help others hear the soundtrack that they might not be able to tap into unless someone plays it for them.

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Arranged by
JASON TONIOLI

The musical score is written for piano in 3/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat major). It consists of three systems of music. The first system begins with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic marking. The second system starts at measure 5, and the third system starts at measure 9. The score features a mix of chords and melodic lines in both the treble and bass staves. A large, semi-transparent watermark 'O' is overlaid on the first system of the score.

Music: John B. Dykes, 1823-1876
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