



Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

John Bacchus Dykes

♪ Livello 40/100 (Ambizioso)

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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 presented in three systems. The first system (measures 1-4) begins with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The second system (measures 5-8) starts at measure 5. The third system (measures 9-12) starts at measure 9. The score is written for piano in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. A large watermark 'O' is overlaid on the first system.

Music: John B. Dykes, 1823-1876
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