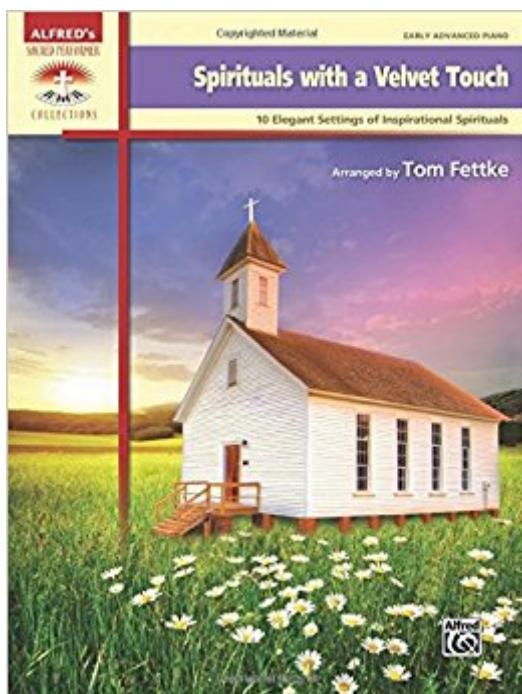


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Spirituals With A Velvet Touch: 10 Elegant Settings Of Inspirational Solos (Sacred Performer Collections)



Synopsis

These 10 arrangements of traditional American spirituals capture the essence of the original music through rich harmonies that highlight their rhythmic nature. To convey their emotional quality, the pianist can approach many of these pieces with freedom of interpretation. Whether playing them in church services, on the concert stage, or for personal enrichment, the performer will find this book to be a wonderful source of enjoyment and inspiration. Titles: Deep River * Give Me Jesus * Here's One * I Want Jesus to Walk with Me * Let Us Break Bread Together * Lord, I Want to Be a Christian * My Lord, What a Morning * Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen * Swing Low, Sweet Chariot with Good News, Chariot's Comin' * Were You There?

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Customer Reviews

I absolutely love any Christian piano music arranged by Tom Fettke. His "Velvet Touch" series is just that, sounding like velvet with only a little practice. Not a music major and with few years of early-in-life lessons, I have been playing organ and piano at churches for more than a half century. Most advanced-level piano arrangements take me a long time to master, if ever; not Tom Fettke's! It is not that they are easy, just that they flow in a very beautiful way that is all his own, and has become mine as well. I have found that most intricate arrangement of spirituals are harder than hymn or even praise-and-worship pieces. This book has proved the exception, which doesn't surprise me. I can immediately use a few of the spirituals at evening services, with others to follow

with a bit of additional practice. I believe I own all of Tom Fettke's church piano books, and do so hope he intends to keep producing them, though with increased frequency. Waiting for each new volume to be published is like awaiting dessert: experiencing a measure of impatience, but knowing there will eventually be real delight.

The arrangements are reasonably easy to play for an intermediate pianist (I sight-read most of them immediately) but are very expressive and varied. I play mostly classical music at the intermediate level, but because I like variety so play everything from ragtime to showtunes to hymns straight out of the hymnal. I was worried this collection would be too basic, but the arrangements are very well done..Don't be put off by the title if you enjoy beautiful piano music. My only real complaints are the relatively limited number of selections and a certain sameness to some of the songs (chord shifts in every one, and a number of repeated stylistic choices). But for occasional play, either in public or in private, it's well worth it.

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