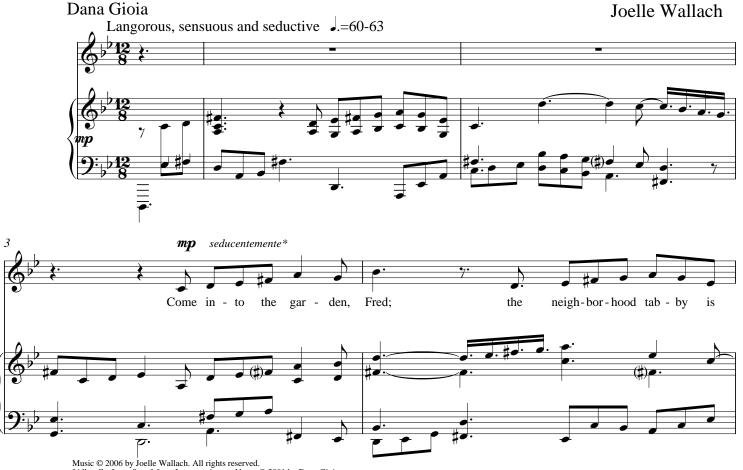
Alleycat Love Song

Come into the garden, Fred, For the neighborhood tabby is gone. Come into the garden, Fred. I have nothing but my flea collar on, And the scent of catnip has gone to my head. I'll wait by the screen door till dawn.

The fireflies court in the sweetgum tree. The nightjar calls from the pine, And she seems to say in her rhapsody, "Oh, mustard-brown Fred, be mine!" The full moon lights my whiskers afire, And the fur goes erect on my spine.

I hear the frogs in the muddy lake Croaking from shore to shore. They've one swift season to soothe their ache. In autumn they sing no more. So ignore me now, and you'll hear my meow As I scratch all night at the door.



Music © 2006 by Joelle Wallach. All rights reserved.
"Alley Cat Love Song" from Interrogations at Noon, © 2001 by Dana Gioia.
Used with the permission of Graywolf Press, Saint Paul, MN. All rights reserved

^{*} Throughout this song, dynamics and tempo may be modified in the service of a tasteful hamminess (tuna-y-ness?).





