

# But It Is Called Joy

*for Trombone Quartet*

(2025)

MARK KIM-MULGREW

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Duration: 5 minutes

Score revision in June 2026

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## Instrumentation

Tenor Trombone 1/2/3

Bass Trombone

## Program Notes

"But It Is Called Joy" is a genre cliché from another field: writing about writing. Specifically, I aimed to write a vignette on the emotional journey many of us go through in the creative process. The title is from the preface (titled "To Possible Readers") of *The Passion According to G. H.* by Clarice Lispector: *Those who know that the approach, of whatever it may be, happens gradually and painstakingly—even passing through the opposite of what it approaches. ... To me, for example, the character G. H. gave bit by bit a difficult joy; but it is called joy.*

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**A** Andante agitato  $\text{♩} = 72$

Tenor Trombone 1  
*p tenuto* *mp*

Tenor Trombone 2  
*p tenuto* *mp*

Tenor Trombone 3  
*p tenuto* *mp*

Bass Trombone  
*p tenuto* *mp*

**B** Allegro con fuoco  $\text{♩} = 144$

*f* *f* *f* *p sub.*

*mp* *ff* *ff* *mp* *ff* *ff* *p sub.*

22 C

Musical score for measures 22-25. The score is in 3/8 time and G major. It features four staves: two treble clefs and two bass clefs. The dynamics are marked as *mp*, *ff*, and *f*. A box labeled 'C' is positioned above the first staff of measure 25. The music consists of rhythmic patterns with eighth and sixteenth notes, and some rests.

26

Musical score for measures 26-29. The score is in 3/8 time and G major. It features four staves: two treble clefs and two bass clefs. The dynamics are marked as *p*. A triplet of eighth notes is indicated in measure 27. The music continues with rhythmic patterns and rests.

30 D Più mosso ♩ = 160

Musical score for measures 30-33. The score is in 3/8 time and G major. It features four staves: two treble clefs and two bass clefs. The tempo is marked 'Più mosso' with a metronome marking of ♩ = 160. The dynamics are marked as *f* and *pp*. A box labeled 'D' is positioned above the first staff of measure 30. The music includes triplet markings and dynamic markings.

J

88

*pp* *f*

93

*pp* *f*

98

*molto rall.*.....

*f* *p* *ff*

**K**  
104 *Andante sostenuto* ♩ = 72 *smorz. ....*

*pp*  
*pp*  
*pp*  
*pp*

PERUSATI  
SCORE