Listening Guide Still: Afro-American Symphony, Second Movement (Sorrow) DATE OF WORK: 1930 BASIS: Dialect poems by Paul Laurence Dunbar KEY: F major/minor OVERALL STRUCTURE: 4 movements (all in modified sonata-allegro form) 1. Moderato assai (Longing) 2. Adagio (Sorrow) 3. Animato (Humor) 4. Lento, con risoluzione (Aspiration) DIALECT POEM "It's moughty tiahsome layin' 'roun' FOR ADAGIO: Dis sorrer-laden earfly groun', An' oftentimes I thinks, thinks I 'Twould be a sweet t'ing des to die A' go 'long home."

WHAT TO LISTEN FOR:

Gently syncopated lines in homophonic texture.

Blue notes (lowered thirds or sevenths) as embellishments.

Rich, colorful harmonies.

Sorrowful mood (*doloroso*) established, with "sighing" gestures. Modified sonata-allegro form that brings back ideas from opening

movement.

Division 1 (Exposition)

Introduction; violins accompanied by strings and timpani.

Theme 1—solo oboe accompanied by strings against flute countermelody:



Theme 1—repeated by violas, with countermelody in woodwinds and muted trumpets. Transition, featuring English horn; more animated.



Restated by solo clarinet.

Division 2 (Development)

Theme 1—altered rhythmically, heard by violin, and later in bass clarinet:



Continuous development of theme, which is passed to various instruments.

Division 3 (Recapitulation)

Theme 1—returns in flute and bassoon, accompanied by harp and low strings; slows to lead into coda.

Coda—brings back introduction with first violin; accompanied by strings. Closing chord dies out (as softly as possible).