

The Calvin Cycle

Ethan Hazzard-Watkins, 2008

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The melody starts with a Dm chord, followed by a Bb chord, then a C chord, and ends with a Dm chord. The second staff starts at measure 6 and features a first ending (1.) with a Bb chord and a C chord, followed by a second ending (2.) with a Bb chord and a C chord. The third staff starts at measure 11 and features a Dm(Bb) chord, a C chord, and a Gm chord, ending with a first ending (1.). The fourth staff starts at measure 17 and features an Am chord, followed by a second ending (2.) with an Am chord.

The light-independent (a.k.a. "dark") reactions of the Calvin Cycle comprise the second half of Photosynthesis, during which plants use energy captured from sunlight to convert carbon dioxide into glucose. I wrote this tune in 2008 and have played it often with Elixir as well as teaching it in several workshops. It languished without a title until 2014 when Kathleen and Jim Fownes (of the band Light Reaction) started sharing it. The title is a nod to their band name in appreciation of their enthusiasm for the tune.