



Brian Gray

Arranger, Composer

United States (USA), Erie, Pennsylvania

About the artist

Brian S. Gray is a self-taught musician / composer. He also has an interest in amphibians and reptiles, thus, many of his compositions have herpetological titles. Brian Gray started playing guitar when he was 13. He became interested in classical guitar and composition while in high school. Several of his herpetological publications can be downloaded at: http://cnah.org/cnah_pdf.asp

About the piece



Title:	Lithobates sylvaticus [Heart of Ice]
Composer:	Gray, Brian
Licence:	Copyright © Brian Gray
Publisher:	Brian S. Gray
Instrumentation:	Guitar solo (standard notation)
Style:	Contemporary

Brian Gray on free-scores.com

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Lithobates sylvaticus
Heart of Ice



Brian S. Gray

Published in the United States of America

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Cover image of Wood Frog ©Brian S. Gray.

Lithobates sylvaticus

Heart of Ice

The Wood Frog, *Lithobates sylvaticus* is native to North America, occurring throughout the eastern United States, and most of Canada and Alaska. In North America it is the only amphibian to have a range that extends north of the Arctic Circle. As its common name implies, the Wood Frog is found primarily in wooded areas, such as moist forests. During winter, *Lithobates sylvaticus* hibernates just below the surface of leaf litter and snow, where it is exposed to extreme cold. As a matter of fact, Wood Frogs can survive having more than half of their body fluids freeze solid! Their heart ceases beating, and breathing stops. If the Wood Frog were found beneath its cover of snow and leaves, it would appear to be dead. However, at the onset of warmer weather, the frog gradually thaws and becomes animate once again. This miraculous act is accomplished, in part, by the frog's use of natural antifreeze, the sugar glucose. As soon as ice crystals begin to form, glucose is produced in the liver and distributed via the bloodstream throughout the body. Once in place the glucose prevents intracellular freezing, which would be lethal. Jeremiah may have been a Bullfrog, but surely, Lazarus was a Wood Frog.

Lithobates sylvaticus: Heart of Ice was composed 3 December 1994. The composition is intended to portray the Wood Frog's incredible ability to withstand freezing. The piece begins with the gradual freezing and apparent death of the frog (measures 1-19), followed by its "resurrection" (measures 20-25).

Brian S. Gray

8 December 2010

Erie, Pennsylvania, USA

Lithobates sylvaticus

Heart of Ice

Brian S. Gray

♩ = 100

Guitar

5

9

13

17

21

25

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