

Green Eyes



Moderate Latin feeling

mf

Your green eyes with their soft lights, Your eyes that promise
 A - que - llos o - jos ver - des de mi - ra - da se -

sweet nights Bring to my soul a long - ing
 re - na, De - ja - ron en mi al - ma

A thirst for love di - vine, In dreams I seem to
 eter - na sed de a - mar, An - he - los de

Most Americans remember "Green Eyes" as the prototype of the Bob Eberly-Helen O'Connell duets, with Jimmy Dorsey's orchestra, that were very popular in the 1940's. But this Cuban tune, composed by Nilo Menéndez, had its original success early in the thirties as part of the first invasion of Latin American dance music into North America. When Jimmy Dorsey gave the song to his two singers, they found that Helen did not have the range to cover the bottom-to-top pick-up notes that carried the words "those cool and limpid green eyes." She faked it by turning the words into a Mae-West-like exclamation. "It killed the listeners," says Eberly, "and that's what made the song."

English translation
E. Rivera and E. W.
Original Spanish
by Adolfo Utrera
Music by Nilo Menéndez

6 7

hold ri - you, cías, To find you and en - fold nu - you: ras,

de be-sos y ter-

A7 D7

Our lips meet and our hearts, too, With a thrill
de to - das las dul - zu - ras que sa - bi -

G7 C

Swing feeling (♩ = ♩) No Chords

lime. dar. Those cool and lim-pid green eyes,
A - que-llos o - jos ver - des

A pool where-in my love lies So deep that i
se - re - nos co-mo un la - go, en cu - yas q

sim.

search - ing For hap - pi - ness I fear
a - guas un dí - a me mi - ré,

Latin feeling as before
N. C.

That they will ev - er haunt me,
No sa - ben las tris - te - zas
All through my life they'll
que en mi al ma han de -

Swing feeling again

taunt me,
ja - do,
But will they ev - er want me, Green
A - que - llos o - jos ver - des que

eyes, yo make my dreams come true.
nun - ca be - sa - ré.
da, ha, che