♫640. A chorus of singers at dawn. Standing among the low alders, willows, and dogwoods along a stream in western Massachusetts, I stood in awe, smiling, recording, the finest of sounds pouring from my headphones into my ears. What a fine gathering of feathered singers in this chorus: willow flycatcher (the focus initially), yellow warbler (throughout, and in fine dawn form), orchard oriole, song sparrow, American robin, common yellowthroat, red-winged blackbird, and in the distance mourning dove and wood thrush. The individual efforts of all these birds have appeared in solo performances elsewhere in the book. 4:41 to 4:54 a.m. Sunrise, 5:21 a.m. May 24, 2018. Whately, Massachusetts. (13:03)

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