

# SKYE BOAT SONG

for S.A.B. voices and piano\*

Words by  
ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON

Scottish Folksong  
Arranged by JAY ALTHOUSE

In a gentle rocking motion with  
a feeling of one pulse per measure ( $\text{♩} = \text{ca. } 46-48$ )

PIANO *mp*

5 SOPRANO  
ALTO  
Sing me a song of a lad that is gone.  
BARITONE (*opt. solo*)  
*mp*

9  
Say, could that lad be I? \_\_\_\_\_ (*end solo*)

\* Also available for S.A.T.B., Level Four (18585) and T.B.B., Level Three (18587).

13 *mp* *unis. or solo*

Mer - ry of soul, he sailed on a day

17

*(end solo)*

o - ver the sea to Skye.

21

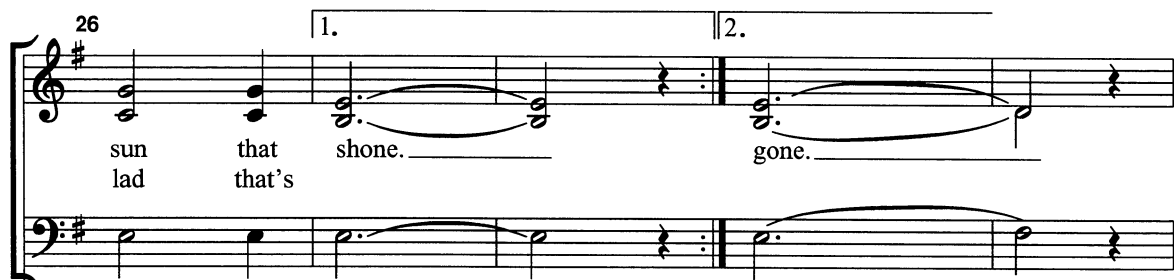
Give me a gain all that was there, give me the  
 Give me the eyes, give me the soul, give me the

*mf*

26

1. 2.

sun that shone. gone.  
lad that's that's

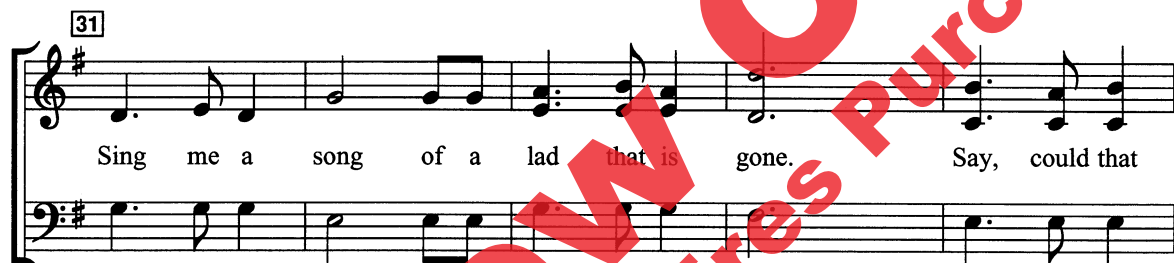


1. 2.



31

Sing me a song of a lad that is gone. Say, could that



36 39

lad he I? Mer - ry of soul, he



41

Skye. \_\_\_\_\_

sailed on a day o - ver the sea to Skye, - to

46

Skye.

51

*f div.*  
Bil - low and breeze, is - land and seas,  
All that was good, all that was fair,

Bil low and breeze, is - land and seas, moun - tains of  
All that was good, all that was fair, all that was

56

1. 2.

moun - tains of rain and sun. me is gone.  
all that was

rain and sun. gone.  
me and is

1. 2.

61

Sing, sing me a song of a lad that is  
gone.

Sing me a song of a lad that is gone.

65

gone. Say, could that lad be

Say, could that lad be I?

69

I? Mer - ry of soul, he sailed on

Mer - ry of soul, he sailed on a day

73

o - ver the sea,

o - ver the sea,

77

o - ver the sea to

81 *decresc.*

Skye.

*decresc.*

*decresc.*

85 *mp unis. or opt. solo rit. (end solo)*

Sing me a song of a lad that is gone

*mp*

*rit.*

89 *Slowly, freely p*

o - ver the sea to Skye.

*Slowly, freely*

*p*

*8va*

*8va*

**Skye Boat Song** has always been one of my favorite folk songs from the British Isles. “Skye” refers to the Island of Skye, a large island off the northwest coast of Scotland. There are several texts to this song; all refer, more or less, to an uprising of Scottish dissidents against the English in 1745-46. After their defeat, they fled to the Island of Skye. The text I’ve used by the poet Robert Louis Stevenson is the most singable, I think. Scholars attribute the first half of the melody to an old sea chantey and suspect that the second half may have been written by Annie MacLeod.

—Jay Althouse

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