

# Billy's Farewell

Look! Through the port comes the moonshine astray!  
BILLY BUDD

Words by  
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Music by  
BENJAMIN BRITTEN

Slowly moving ♩ = 72-88

BILLY:

Look! \_\_\_\_\_ Through the port comes the moon-shine a-stray!

It tips the guard's cut-lass and sil-vers this nook;

15

cresc.

But 'twill die in the dawn-ing of Bil - ly's last

18      *espr.*

day. Ay, ay, \_\_\_\_\_ all is up; and I must up too Ear - ly in the

22

morn-ing, a - loft from be - low. On an

25

em - pty stom - ach, now, ne - ver would it do. They'll give me a nib - ble - bit of

28

bis - cuit ere I go. Sure, \_\_ a mess-mate will reach me the last part - ing

cup; But turn - ing, turn - ing, turn-ing heads a -

31

**ppp** (words! – *parlando*)

way From the hoist and the be - lay. Hea - ven knows who will have the run-ning of me up!

No pipe to those hal-yards—

37

**f** lively

**8va**

40 ***pp***

But ain't it all sham? A blur's in my eyes; it is dream-ing that I

43

***pp*** *espr.* ***cresc.***

am. But Don-al-d he has prom-ised to stand by the

46

*dim.*

plank, So I'll shake a friend-ly hand ere I sink. But no! no!

49

***pp*** ***più p***

It is dead then I'll be, come to think. They'll

90

52

lash me in ham-mock, drop me deep,

*più p*

*più pp*

55 *ancora più p*

Fa-thoms down, fa-thoms— how I'll dream fast a - sleep. I feel it steal-ing now;—

*ppp*

58

*dolce*

*pppp*

roll me o - ver fair.

*pppp*

*ppp*

61 *sempre pp*

I'm sleep - y and the oo - zy weeds a - bout me —

*sempre pp*

64

twist.

**Very lively**  $\text{♩} = 144$

*legato*

68

And fare - well to ye, old Rights o' Man!

**p**

*with ped.*

73

Ne - ver your joys no more. Fare - well to this grand rough

78

world! \_\_\_\_\_ Ne - ver more ship - mates, no more

**mf**

\*Dansker's exchange with Billy is cut in this solo edition of the scene.

sea, No look - ing down from the heights to the depths.

— But I've sight - ed a sail in the storm,

The far - shin - ing sail that's not fate, And

I'm con - ten - ted, I've seen where she's bound for.

103 *cresc.*

She has a land of her own where she'll an - chor for

*cresc.*

107 *freely*

e - ver. Oh, \_\_\_\_\_ I'm con - ten - ted. Don't mat - ter now be - ing

*fp* *pp* *ppp*

113 **a tempo**

hanged, or be - ing for - got - ten \_\_\_\_\_ and caught in the

*p*

*cresc.*

118

weeds. Don't mat - ter now. \_\_\_\_\_

(3)

(3)

(3)

122 broadly *ff* *sempre f*

I'm strong, and I know it, and I'll stay strong,

*ff* *p* *pp* *p* *p* *mf*

I'll stay strong and that's all, all, all, and that's e - nough,

128

*p* *mf* *p* *pp* *p* *pp* *p*

I'll stay strong and that's all, all, all, and that's e - nough,

*p* *mf* *p* *pp* *p* *pp* *p*

I'll stay strong and that's all, all, all, and that's e - nough,

getting slower and slower

135

*pp*

that's e - nough, that's e - nough.

*poco a poco più lento*

*ppp* *pp* *ppp*

that's e - nough, that's e - nough.

142 *rall.*

Rather lively (♩)

*ppp*

Rather lively (♩)