

TTB

# SING ME A SONG OF A LAD THAT IS GONE

TTB, accompanied

Words by ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON  
Music by SHERRI PORTERFIELD

NEW DIRECTIONS  
*choral series*

## SING ME A SONG OF A LAD THAT IS GONE

Words by

Robert Louis Stevenson (1850-1894)

Robert Louis Stevenson, Scottish novelist and poet, is probably best known for his novel *Treasure Island* and his volume of poetry, *A Child's Garden of Verses*. In ill health most of his life, he gave up a career in law to write some of British literature's best-loved adventure stories and poems. Stevenson spent most of his life traveling around the world, eventually settling in Samoa, where he died in 1894. Many of his writings reflected the adventure of these travels.

"Sing Me a Song of a Lad That is Gone" is one of the poems from *Songs of Travel*, a volume of poetry written during the last years of Stevenson's life. According to his wife, Stevenson wrote this poem to replace the words of a favorite song of his so that it would be more in harmony with the tune of the song. Originally titled, "Over the Sea to Skye," Stevenson makes reference to the islands of Skye, Rum, Mull and Eigg which are located off the west coast of Scotland. The island of Skye, now a very desolate island, holds many memories from ages past. It could possibly be that this poem was written in response to Stevenson's longing for an irrecoverable past which often dominated his imagination, as evident in many of his writings.

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3.

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**Spirited** (♩ = 80)

The piano introduction is in B-flat major, 4/4 time. It begins with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic. The right hand features a series of chords and single notes, while the left hand provides a steady bass line with eighth notes. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat).

**TENOR I and II**  
*mf unison*

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

**BARITONE**

The vocal parts for Tenor I and II and Baritone enter on measure 5. The Tenors sing in unison. The piano accompaniment continues with the same harmonic structure as the introduction.

I? Mer - ry of soul he sailed on a day

*mf*

Mer - ry of soul he sailed on a day

The vocal parts continue with the lyrics. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support, including a mezzo-forte (mf) section for the Baritone part.

o - ver the sea to Skye. Mull was a - stern, —

o - ver the sea to Skye. Mull was a - stern,

*div.* **13** *cresc.* *n.b.*

*cresc.* *n.b.*

**13** *cresc.*

Rum on the port, — Eigg on the star - board bow;

Rum on the port, Eigg on the star - board bow;

**17** *f* *subito p*

Glo - ry of youth glowed in his soul: Where is that glo - ry

*f* *subito p*

**17** Glo - ry of youth glowed in his soul: Where is that glo - ry

*f* *subito p*

now? Sing me a song of a

now? Sing me a song of a

lad that is gone, Say, could that lad be I?

lad that is gone, Say, could that lad be I?

Mer - ry of soul he sailed on a day o - ver the sea to

Mer - ry of soul he sailed on a day o - ver the sea to

22 *mf*

22 *mf*

22 *mf*

30 *cresc.*

Skye. Give me a - gain all that was there, —

Skye. Give me a - gain all that was there,

30 *cresc.*

34 *f*

Give me the sun that shone! Give me the eyes,

Give me the sun that shone! Give me the eyes,

34 *f*

*SHAWN*

*subito p*

Give me the soul, Give me the lad that's gone.

*subito p*

Give me the soul, Give me the lad that's gone.

*subito p*

39 *f*

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

*f*

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

39 *f*

could that lad be I? Mer - ry of soul he

could that lad be I? Mer - ry of soul he

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

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

47 *cresc.*

Bil - lows and breeze, \_\_\_\_\_ is - lands and seas, \_\_\_\_\_ moun - tains of rain and

47 *cresc.*

Bil - lows and breeze, \_\_\_\_\_ is - lands and seas, \_\_\_\_\_ moun - tains of rain and

*cresc.*

51 *ff* *subito p*

sun, All that was good, All that was fair, All that was me — is

*ff* *subito p*

sun, All that was good, All that was fair, All that was me is

51 *ff* *subito p*

55 *slight rit.* *molto rit.* *a tempo* *QUIET, DISAPPEARING*

gone. All that was me — is gone!

*slight rit.* *molto rit.* *a tempo*

gone. All that was me is gone!

55 *slight rit.* *f* *molto rit.* *a tempo*

