

# SKYE BOAT SONG

for T.B.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 (♩. = ca. 46-48)

PIANO

*mp*

5 TENOR

Sing me a song of a lad that is gone.

BASS, BARITONE (*unis. or opt. solo*)

*mp*

R.H.

9

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

\* Also available for S.A.T.B., Level Four (18585) and S.A.B., Level Three (18586).

13 *mp* (opt. solo)

Mer - ry of soul, he sailed on a day

17

(end solo)

o - ver the sea to Skye.

21

*mf*

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

*mf mel.*

26

1. sun that shone. 2. gone.

lad that's

1. 2.

31

*mel.*

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

*mel.*

36

lad be I?

39

*mel.*

Mer - ry of soul, he

*mel.*

41

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

\_\_\_\_\_

46

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

51

*f div.*

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

*f mel.*  
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 me and is sun. gone.

1. 2.

61

Sing, sing me a song of a lad that is  
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* (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. \_\_\_\_\_

*p*

*Slowly, freely*

*p* *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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