

SONGS OF TRAVEL

(POEMS BY ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON)

1. THE VAGABOND (TTBB)
2. BRIGHT IS THE RING OF WORDS (SATB)
3. LET BEAUTY AWAKE (SATB)
4. THE INFINITE SHINING HEAVENS
(SATB)
5. IN DREAMS (SSAA)
6. I HAVE TROD THE UPWARD AND
DOWNWARD SLOPE_(SATB)

Martin Chambers
(2013)

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Songs of Travel, a group of nine poems drawn from a book of poems of the same name written by *Robert Louis Stevenson* in 1896.

This poetry became well known through solo settings for voice and piano by *Ralph Vaughan Williams* most probably written in 1904.

These poems explore perennial travel and adventure themes of a traditional English wayfarer or vagabond, world-weary yet resolute.

THE INFINITE SHINING HEAVENS

Robert Louis Stevenson

Martin Chambers
b. 1944

Slowly

Musical score for Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass, and Optional Piano, measures 1-7. The score is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The tempo is marked 'Slowly'. Dynamics include *mp* and *p*. The lyrics are: 'The in - fin - ite shin - ing heav'ns Rose and I saw in the night Un - ah, and I saw in the night Un - ah, and I saw in the night Un - ah, and I saw in the night Un -'. The Soprano part has a triplet of eighth notes in measure 3. The Alto, Tenor, and Bass parts have 'ah,' in measure 1. The Optional Piano part has a triplet of eighth notes in measure 3.

Musical score for Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass, and Optional Piano, measures 8-14. The score continues from measure 7. The lyrics are: 'count - ab - le an - gel stars Show - er - ing sor - row and light. I saw them dis - tant as'. The Soprano part has triplets of eighth notes in measures 8, 9, and 14. The Alto, Tenor, and Bass parts have triplets of eighth notes in measures 8, 9, and 14. The Optional Piano part has triplets of eighth notes in measures 8, 9, and 14.

15

heav'n, dumb and shin-ing and dead, And the id - le stars of the night Were

heav'n, dumb and shin-ing and dead, And the id - le stars of the night Were

heav'n, dumb and shin-ing and dead, And the id - le stars of the night Were

heav'n, dumb and shin-ing and dead, And the id - le stars of the night Were

mp

22

dear - er to me than bread. Night af - ter night

dear - er to me than bread. Night af - ter night

dear - er to me than bread. Night af - ter night

dear - er to me than bread. Night af - ter

p

mp

in my sor - row The stars stood ov - er the sea, Till lo! *mp*

in my sor - row The stars stood ov - er the sea, Till lo! *mp*

in my sor - row The stars stood ov - er the sea, Till lo! *mp*

night in my sor - row The stars stood ov - er the sea, Till lo! *mp*

mp mf *p*

I looked in the dusk And a star had come down to me.

ah, ah,

ah, ah,

ah, ah,