

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)

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.

Here are the composer's six favorites poems of the nine.

I HAVE TROD THE UPWARD AND THE DOWNWARD SLOPE

Robert Louis Stevenson

Martin Chambers
b. 1944

mf Andante ♩ = 72

Soprano
mf I have trod the up - ward and the down - ward slope:

Alto
mf I have trod the up - ward and the down - ward slope:

Tenor
mf I have trod the up - ward and the down - ward slope:

Bass
I have trod the up - ward and the down - ward slope:

Piano Rehearsal Only
mf

5

Sop.
I have trod; I have _____ en - dured and done in

Alto
I have trod; I have _____ en - dured and done in

Ten.
I have trod; I have _____ en - dured and done in

Bass
I have trod; I have _____ en - dured and done in

9

Sop. days be - fore: I have en - dured; I have longed for

Alto days be - fore: I have en - dured; I have longed for

Ten. 8 days be - fore: I have en - dured; I have longed for

Bass days be - fore: I have en - dured; I have longed for

13

Sop. all, longed for all, *mp* and bid fare - well to hope; *p* and

Alto all, longed for all, *mp* and bid fare - well to hope; *p* and

Ten. 8 all, longed for all, *mp* and bid fare - well to hope; *p* and

Bass all, longed for all, and bid fare - well to hope; and

mp *p*

17

Sop. *mf* bid fare - well to hope; *mf* I have trod, and

Alto *mf* bid fare - well to hope; *mf* I have trod, and

Ten. *mf* bid fare - well to hope; *mf* I have trod, and

Bass *mf* bid fare - well to hope; I have trod, and

mf

21

Sop. *mp* I have en - dured, and I have longed for all *mp* and

Alto *mp* I have en - dured, and I have longed for all *mp* and

Ten. *mp* I have en - dured, and I have longed for all *mp* and

Bass *mp* I have en - dured, and I have longed for all and

mp

25 *p*

Sop. I have lived and I loved, *p* lived and

Alto I have lived and I loved, lived and

Ten. I have lived and I loved, *p* lived and

Bass I have lived and I loved, *p* lived and

p

29 **Adagio** ♩ = 60 *rit. pp*

Sop. loved, and closed the door. *rit. pp* and closed the door.

Alto loved, and closed the door. *rit. pp* and closed the door.

Ten. loved, and closed the door. *rit. pp* and closed the door.

Bass loved, and closed the door. *rit. pp* and closed the _____

rit.

pp