

Tom Bowling

The Sailor's Epitaph

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Charles Dibdin (1740-1814)
Arr: Rilla Paterson for SATB
with piano accompaniment or A cappella
July 2023

*The song, also known as "The Sailor's Epitaph",
was written to commemorate the death
of the composer's older brother, Thomas Dibdin,
a captain of a ship in the East India trade,
who died at sea.*

*The tune for Tom Bowling is the fourth movement
from the Fantasia on British Sea Songs, a medley arranged
by Sir Henry Wood in 1905 to mark the centenary
of the Battle of Trafalgar.*

*It has for many years been an indispensable
item at the BBC's Last Night of the Proms concert.*

Tom Bowling
The Sailor's Epitaph

Charles Dibdin arr. Rilla Paterson July 2023

Tempo: ♩ = 75

Score:

Vocal Parts:

- Soprano:** 1. Here a sheer hulk lies
- Alto:** 1. Here a sheer hulk lies
- Tenor:** 1. Here a sheer hulk lies
- Bass:** 1. Here a sheer hulk lies

Piano:

Section Markers: A

Dynamic: *mp*

6

S. poor Tom Bow - ling, the dar - ling of our crew, No more he'll hear the temp est howl - ing, for

A. poor Tom Bow - ling, the dar - ling of our crew, No more he'll hear the temp est howl - ing, for

T. 8 poor Tom Bow - ling, the dar - ling of our crew, No more he'll hear the temp est howl - ing, for

B. poor Tom Bow - ling, the dar - ling of our crew, No more he'll hear the temp est howl - ing, for

Pno.

11 *p* **B** *mf*

S. death has broach'd him to; His form was of the man - liest beau - ty, his heart was kind and

A. *p* *mf*

T. 8 *p* *mf*

B. *p* *mf*

Pno. *p* **B**

16

S. *mp*
soft, _____ Faith-ful be- low, Tom did his du - ty, And now he's gone a - loft, _____ and

A. *mp*
soft, _____ Faith-ful be- low, Tom did his du - ty, And now he's gone a - loft, _____ and

T. *mp*
soft, _____ Faith-ful be- low, Tom did his du - ty, And now he's gone a - loft, _____ and

B. *mp*
soft, _____ Faith-ful be- low, Tom did his du - ty, And now he's gone a - loft, _____ and

Pno.

21

S.
now he's_ gone a - loft.

A.
now he's_ gone a - loft.

T.
now he's gone a - loft.

B.
now he's gone a - loft.

Pno.

26 **C** *mf*

S. 2.Tom nev-er from his word de part - ed, his vir-tues were so rare, His

A. 2.Tom ne-ver from his word de - part - ed, his vir-tues were so rare, His

T. 2.Tom nev-er from his word de - part - ed, his vir-tues were so rare, His

B. 2.His vir-tues were so rare, His

Pno. *mf*

31 **D** *p* *f*

S. friends were ma-ny, and true -heart - ed, his poll was kind and fair. And then he'd sing so

A. friends were ma-ny, and true - heart - ed, his poll was kind and fair. And then he'd sing so

T. friends were ma - ny, and true - heart - ed, his poll was kind and fair. And then he'd sing so

B. friends were ma - ny, and true - heart - ed, his poll was kind and fair.

Pno. *p* *mf*

36

S. *sub p*
blithe and jol - ly, Ah! Ma - ny's the time and oft, But mirth is turned to

A. *sub p*
blithe and jol - ly, Ah! Ma - ny's the time and oft, But mirth is turned to

T. *sub p*
blithe and jol - ly, Ah! Ma - ny's the time and oft, But mirth is turned to

B. *f* *sub p*
Ah! Ma - ny's the time and oft, But mirth is turn'd to

Pno. *sub p*

40

S. mel - an - cho - ly, For Tom is gone a - loft, For Tom is gone a - loft.

A. mel - an - cho - ly, For Tom is gone a - loft, For Tom is gone a - loft.

T. *8* mel - an - cho - ly, For Tom is gone a - loft, For Tom is gone a - loft.

B. mel - an - cho - ly, For Tom is gone a - loft.

Pno.

45

S. *mf* **E** 3. Yet shall poor Tom find

A. *mf* 3. Yet shall poor Tom find

T. *mf* 3. Yet shall poor Tom find

B. *mf* 3. Yet shall poor Tom find

Pno. *mp* *mf* **E**

50

S. pleas - ant weath - er, when He who all com - mands shall give, to call life's crew to - geth - er the

A. pleas - ant weath - er, when He who all com - mands shall give, to call life's crew to - ge - ther, the

T. pleas - ant weath - er, when He who all com - mands shall give, to call life's crew to - ge - ther, the

B. pleas - ant weath - er, when He who all com - mands shall give, to call life's crew to - ge ther, the

Pno.

55

S. *ff*
word to pipe all hands:___ Thus death, who kings and tars___ dis patch es, in vain Tom's life_ has_

A. *ff*
word to pipe all hands:___ Thus death who kings and tars_ dis - patch - es, in vain Tom's life has

T. *ff*
word to pipe all hands:___ Thus death, who kings and tars dis - patch - es, in vain Tom's life has

B. *ff*
word to pipe all hands:___ Thus death who kings and tars des - patch - es, in vain Tom's life has

Pno. *ff*

60

S. *mp espress.* *p*
doff'd,___ For though his bod - y's un - der hatch - es, his soul has gone a - loft,___ his

A. *mp espress.* *p*
doff'd___ For_ though his bo - dy's un - der hatch - es, his soul has gone a - loft,___ his

T. *mp espress.* *p*
doff'd___ For though his bo - dy's_ un - der hatch - es, his soul has gone a - loft,___ his

B. *mp espress.* *p*
doff'd___ For though his bo - dy's un - der hatch - es, his soul has gone a - loft,___ his

Pno. *mp*

65

S. soul has gone a - loft.

A. soul has gone a - loft.

T. soul has gone a - loft.

B. soul has gone a - loft.

Pno. *p* *mp*

68

S.

A.

T.

B.

Pno. *dim.* *pp* rit.