

# Crossing the Bar

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words Alfred Lord Tennyson  
music Rani Arbo, arr. Peter Amidon  
in *Twenty-five Anthems for Interfaith & Community Choirs*  
and *Online Choral Store*

Sun - set and eve - ning star, and one clear call for me! And

The first system of musical notation for 'Crossing the Bar'. It consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is common time (C). The vocal line begins with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line and chords in the right hand.

5  
may there be no moan - ing of the bar, When I put out to sea, When

The second system of musical notation, starting at measure 5. The vocal line continues with quarter notes D5, E5, and F5. The piano accompaniment maintains its rhythmic pattern.

9  
I put out to sea, When I put out to sea, And

The third system of musical notation, starting at measure 9. The vocal line features a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The piano accompaniment continues with its established accompaniment.

13  
may there be no moan - ing of the bar, When I put out to sea,

The fourth system of musical notation, starting at measure 13. The vocal line begins with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The piano accompaniment concludes the system with a final chord.

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17

But such a tide as mo-ving seems a-sleep, Too full for sound and foam, When

22

that which drew from out the bound-less deep Turns a-gain home.

26

Turns a-gain home Turns a-gain home When

30

that which drew from out the bound-less deep Turns a-gain home.

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34



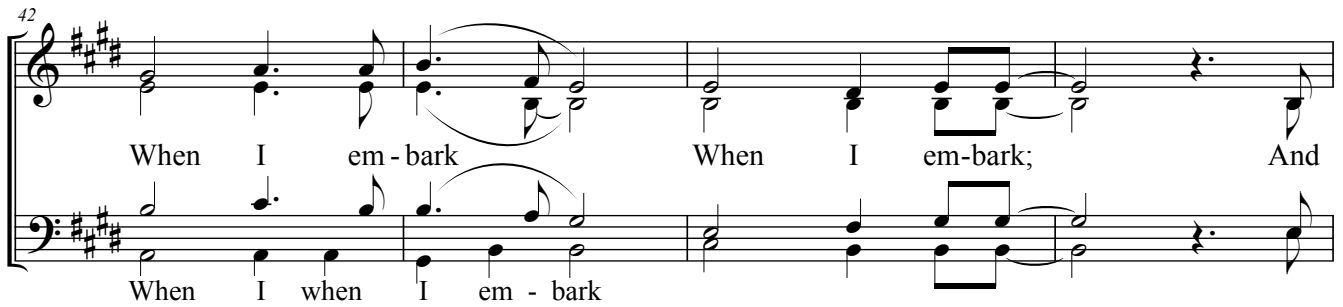
Twi - light and eve - ning bell, And af - ter that the dark! And

38



may there be no sad - ness of fare-well, When I em - bark;

42



When I em - bark When I em - bark; And  
When I when I em - bark

46



may there be no sad - ness of fare-well, When I em - bark;

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50

For tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place The flood may bear me

Detailed description: This system contains measures 50 through 53. The music is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The vocal line begins with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, C5, and D5. The piano accompaniment consists of a steady eighth-note bass line in the left hand and a similar eighth-note line in the right hand, with chords. The lyrics are: "For tho' from out our bourne of Time and Place The flood may bear me".

54

far, I hope to see my Pi-lot face to face When I have crossed the bar. When

When

Detailed description: This system contains measures 54 through 58. The vocal line continues with a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, C5, and D5. The piano accompaniment continues with the same eighth-note pattern. The lyrics are: "far, I hope to see my Pi-lot face to face When I have crossed the bar. When". The word "When" is written below the bass line at the end of the system.

59

I have crossed the bar When I have crossed the bar I hope to see my Pi-lot

I have crossed the bar

Detailed description: This system contains measures 59 through 63. The vocal line features a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, C5, and D5. The piano accompaniment continues with the same eighth-note pattern. The lyrics are: "I have crossed the bar When I have crossed the bar I hope to see my Pi-lot". The words "I have crossed the bar" are written below the bass line at the end of the system.

64

*rit.*

face to face When I have crossed the bar When I have crossed the bar.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 64 through 67. The music is marked *rit.* (ritardando). The vocal line features a half note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, C5, and D5. The piano accompaniment continues with the same eighth-note pattern. The lyrics are: "face to face When I have crossed the bar When I have crossed the bar." The system ends with a double bar line.

Rani Arbo's husband Scott's grandmother, Elizabeth May, inspired Rani's setting of Tennyson's famous poem, which he wrote at age 81. The first words of the poem were the last words Elizabeth May spoke, at age 97, in her beloved home overlooking the Potomac River Valley.