

Break, Break, Break / Teas / TB with Kbd

Break, Break, Break

DAVID TEAS

TB Voices with Keyboard

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Part-by-Part



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Performance Notes

Break, Break, Break was written in 1835 by Alfred Lord Tennyson, (1809-1892), one of England's most popular poets. An elegy for a friend, the poem portrays the sea as life – remorselessly moving on.

This setting begins with the crashing of the sea against the rocky crags, dramatically introduced in the piano accompaniment. The swelling dynamics, from piano to forte to piano, represent the swelling of the sea and the feelings of loss conveyed by the poet.

Singers should strive for intentional dynamic contrast to effectively convey the meaning of the text. Additionally, when singing the word “break”, roll the ‘r’ and emphasize the ‘k’ for a more percussive, “crashing” quality.

The middle section, mm. 20-52, should be calmer in character. There are, however, occasional swellings which remind us that the sea is still in motion, even while we are remembering friends that have moved on.

I hope you enjoy learning, singing and performing this song as much as I enjoyed writing it!

— David Teas

Break, Break, Break

3

Words by
ALFRED LORD TENNYSON

for TB Voices with Keyboard

Music by
DAVID TEAS

Dramatically ♩ = 86-94

Keyboard

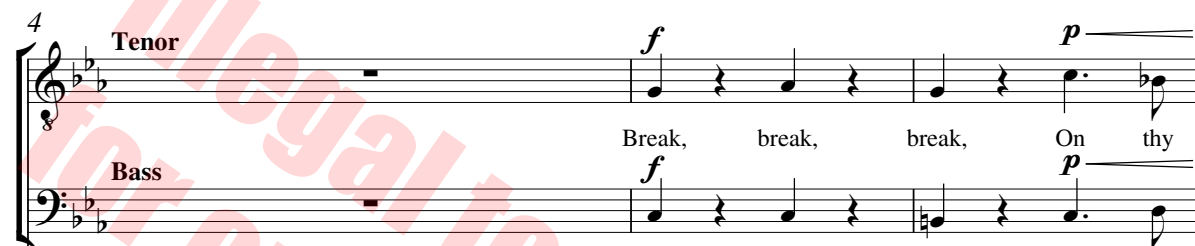


4

Tenor

Bass

Break, break, break, On thy



7

cold gray stones, O sea!

Break, break,



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break — And I would that my tongue could ut -

p

p



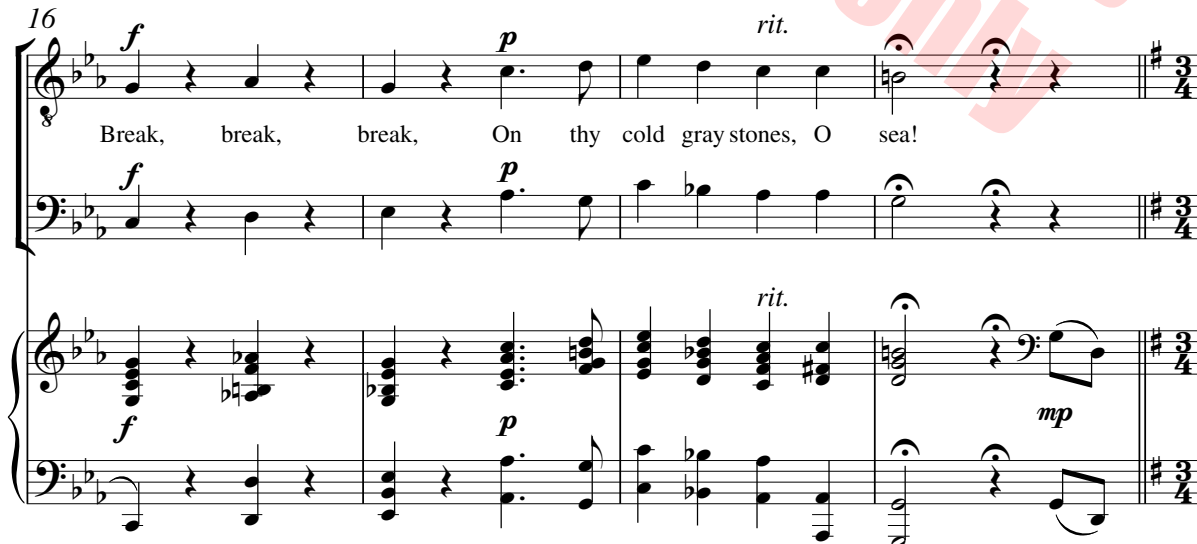
ter The thoughts that a - rise in me. O



Break, break, break, On thy cold gray stones, O sea!

f *p* *rit.*

f *p* *rit.* *mp*



20 A little less motion ♩ = 84-88

A little less motion ♩ = 84-88

26 *mp* O — well for the fish - er - man's boy, *mf* That he shouts with his

30 sis - ter at play; *mp* sis - ter at play; O — well for the sail - or lad

35 *mp* *mf* *mp*

That he sings in his boat on the bay! And the state - ly ships go

39 *f* *mp* *p* *cresc.*

on To their hav - en un - der the hill; But O for the touch of a

43 *f* *p*

van - ished hand, And the sound of a voice that is still!

CM9245

48

p

53 **Tempo I**

f Break, break, break, At the

f

Tempo I

f *p* *f*

56

foot of thy crags, O sea! But the ten - der grace of a day that is

p *p*

p *p*

8 dead Will nev - er come back to me. O

8 Break, break, break, At the foot of thy

8 crags, O sea!

rit. *a tempo*

rit. *a tempo* ***ff***

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