

A Song — of — Flight



Text by
Christina Rossetti

Music by
Christopher Alexander





About the composer

Christopher Alexander [b.1986] is an award-winning composer and arranger from St. Joseph, Missouri. He received his Bachelor of Science in Vocal Music Education degree from Missouri Western State University in 2009. A self-taught pianist, his compositions and arrangements ranging from instrumental works to vocal solo and choral literature. Mr. Alexander has been commissioned numerous times by singing groups and church choirs within the northwest Missouri and northeast Kansas regions. He is also active in musical theatre productions as a music director and pianist. His works have been published with Santa Barbara Music Publishing, GIA Music Publications, Hal Leonard, Endeavor Music Publishing, Alfred Music Publishing, ECS Publishing, Excelcia Music Publishing, and Heritage Music Press

He was awarded the St. Joseph Allied Arts Council Mayor's Award for Artist of the Year in 2016 and 2025. In 2022, he was inducted into the New Generation Singers Hall of Fame.

Mr. Alexander currently serves as the pianist and primary arranger for The New Generation Singers, a Christian singing youth group based in St. Joseph, Missouri. He is a member of NAFME, ACDA, MCDA, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity.

Website: cantareworks.com

A Song of Flight

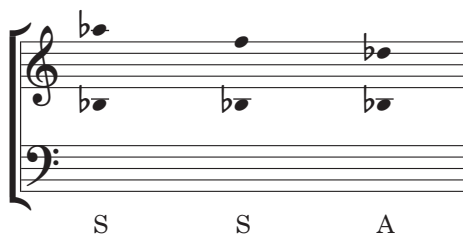
by Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)

While we slumber and sleep,
The sun leaps up from the deep,--
Daylight born at the leap,--
Rapid, dominant, free,
Athirst to bathe in the uttermost sea.

While we linger at play--
If the year would stand at May!--
Winds are up and away,
Over land, over sea,
To their goal, wherever their goal may be.

It is time to arise,
To race for the promised prize;
The sun flies, the wind flies,
We are strong, we are free,
And home lies beyond the stars and the sea.

Ranges



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A Song of Flight

Words by
Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)

Music by
Christopher Alexander

Largo sostenuto e tranquillo ♩ = 60-62

mp
S While we

mp
S While we

mp
A While we

Piano
mp
Reo.

3
slum - ber and sleep, The sun leaps up from the deep, -

3
slum - ber and sleep, The sun leaps up from the deep, -

3
slum - ber and sleep, The sun leaps up from the deep, -

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5

Day - light born at the leap, Rap - id, dom - i - nant,

7

free, A - thirst to bathe in, bathe in the ut - ter - most

9 *mf* *poco rit.*

sea. _____

mf

sea, _____ the sea. _____

mf

sea, _____ the sea. _____

mf

A *a tempo*

11

mp

While we

mp

While we

mp

12 *mp*

The sun

slum - ber and sleep, The sun leaps

slum - ber and sleep, The sun leaps

13

leaps up from the deep, -

up from the deep, -

up from the deep, -

(Ped.)

14 *mf*

Day - light born _____ at the leap, Rap - id, dom - i - nant,

mf

Day - light born _____ at the leap, Rap - id, dom - i - nant,

mf

Day - light born _____ at the leap, Rap - id, dom - i - nant, _

mf

16 *mp*

free, A - thirst to

mp

free, A - thirst to

mp

free, A - thirst to

mp

poco rit.

B

Poco più mosso, espressivo ♩ = c. 68–72

18

bathe in, bathe in the ut - ter - most sea. While we

bathe in, bathe in the ut - ter - most sea. While we

bathe in, bathe in the ut - ter - most sea. While we

(Poco)

20

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23

May! _____ Winds are up, up, up and a -

May! _____ Winds are up, _____ up, up and a -

May! _____ Winds are up, _____ up, up and a -

8va *loco*

26

way, _____ O - ver land, _____

way, _____ O - ver land, _____

way, _____ O - ver land, _____

C

o - ver sea, _____ To their

o - ver sea, _____ To their

o - ver sea, _____ To their



goal, wher - ev - er their goal _____ may be. _____

goal, wher - ev - er their goal _____ may be. _____

goal, wher - ev - er their goal _____ may be. _____



35 *rit.*

It is time to a -

It is time to a -

It is time to a -

D **Maestoso** ♩ = 64–66

38 *f* *cantabile*

rise! It is

rise! It is

rise! It is

40

time to a - rise, To race for the prom - ised prize, The

time to a - rise, To race for the prom - ised prize, The

time to a - rise, To race for the prom - ised prize, The

42

sun flies, the wind flies, We are

sun flies, the wind flies, We are

sun flies, the wind flies, We are

44

mf

strong, we are free, And

strong, we are free,

strong, we are free,

E

46

cresc.

home lies be - yond the stars, and home lies be -

mf cresc.

And home lies be - yond the stars_____

mf cresc.

And home lies be - yond the stars_____

legato

mf cresc.

49

rit. **ff**

yond the stars _____ and the

ff

_____ and the

ff

_____ and the

espr. **ff**

(Ped.) _____ (No pedal)

F a tempo

53

sea. _____ It is time to a - rise, _____ it is

sea. _____ It is

sea. _____ It is

Ped.

55

time, it is time to a - rise! _____

time, it is time to a - rise! _____

time, it is time to a - rise! _____

Opt. Div.

58

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