

Sanford Dole

# Invitation to a Voyage

*for SSATBB Choir*

**Poem by Charles Baudelaire (1821-1867)**

**As translated by Edna St. Vincent Millay (1892-1950)**



*Music in the Dolian Mode*

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### **L'invitation au voyage**

Mon enfant, ma sœur,  
Songe à la douceur  
D'aller là-bas vivre ensemble !  
Aimer à loisir,  
Aimer et mourir  
Au pays qui te ressemble !  
Les soleils mouillés  
De ces ciels brouillés  
Pour mon esprit ont les charmes  
Si mystérieux  
De tes traîtres yeux,  
Brillant à travers leurs larmes.

Là, tout n'est qu'ordre et beauté,  
Luxe, calme et volupté.

Des meubles luisants,  
Polis par les ans,  
Décoreraient notre chambre;  
Les plus rares fleurs  
Mêlant leurs odeurs  
Aux vagues senteurs de l'ambres,  
Les riches plafonds,  
Les miroirs profonds,  
La splendeur orientale,  
Tout y parlerait  
A l'âme en secret  
Sa douce langue natale.

Là, tout n'est qu'ordre et beauté,  
Luxe, calme et volupté.

Vois sur ces canaux  
Dormir ces vaisseaux  
Dont l'humeur est vagabonde;  
C'est pour assouvir  
Ton moindre désir  
Qu'ils viennent du bout du monde.  
Les soleils couchants  
Revêtent les champs,  
Les canaux, la ville entière,  
D'hyacinthe et d'or;  
Le monde s'endort  
Dans une chaude lumière.

Là, tout n'est qu'ordre et beauté,  
Luxe, calme et volupté.

### **Invitation to a Voyage**

Think, would it not be  
Sweet to live with me  
All alone, my child, my love? –  
Sleep together, share  
All things, in that fair  
Country you remind me of?  
Charming in the dawn  
There, the half-withdrawn  
Drenched, mysterious sun appears  
In the curdled skies,  
Traucherous as your eyes  
Shining from behind their tears.

There, restraint and order bless  
Luxury and voluptuousness.

We should have a room  
Never out of bloom:  
Tables polished by the palm  
Of the vanished hours  
Should reflect rare flowers  
In that amber-scented calm;  
Ceilings richly wrought,  
Mirrors deep as thought,  
Walls with eastern splendour hung, –  
All should speak apart  
To the homesick heart  
In its own dear native tongue.

There, restraint and order bless  
Luxury and voluptuousness.

See, their voyage past,  
To their moorings fast,  
On the still canals asleep.  
These big ships; to bring  
You some trifling thing  
They have braved the furious deep.  
Now the sun goes down,  
Tinting dyke and town,  
Field, canal, all things in sight,  
Hyacinth and gold;  
All that we behold  
Slumbers in its ruddy light.

There, restraint and order bless  
Luxury and voluptuousness.

# Invitation to a Voyage

Charles Baudelaire  
trans. Edna St. Vincent Millay (1936)

Sanford Dole

**Largo** ♩ = 56

SOPRANO  
Think, \_\_\_\_\_ would it not be sweet to live, \_\_\_\_\_ would it not be sweet to live, to \_\_\_\_\_ live with

MEZZO SOP.  
Think, \_\_\_\_\_ think, \_\_\_\_\_ sweet to live, be sweet to

ALTO  
Think, \_\_\_\_\_ think, \_\_\_\_\_ be sweet to

TENOR  
Think, \_\_\_\_\_ would it not be

BARITONE  
Think, \_\_\_\_\_ think,

BASS  
Think, \_\_\_\_\_ would it not be

Piano for rehearsal only

**Largo** ♩ = 56

S.  
me \_\_\_\_\_ my child, my love? \_\_\_\_\_ to-ge-ther,

M-S.  
live with me \_\_\_\_\_ my child, my love, \_\_\_\_\_ my love, \_\_\_\_\_ my love, Sleep \_\_\_\_\_ to-ge-ther,

A.  
live with me \_\_\_\_\_ my child, my love, \_\_\_\_\_ my love, \_\_\_\_\_ my love, Sleep \_\_\_\_\_ to-ge-ther,

T.  
sweet to live, \_\_\_\_\_ my child, my love, \_\_\_\_\_ my love, \_\_\_\_\_ Sleep \_\_\_\_\_ to-ge-ther,

Bar.  
all a-lone my child, my love, \_\_\_\_\_ my love, \_\_\_\_\_ Sleep \_\_\_\_\_ to-ge-ther,

B.  
sweet, \_\_\_\_\_ my child, my love, \_\_\_\_\_ Sleep,

Pno.

8 *mf*

S. share all things, in that fair coun-try, coun - try

M-S. share all things, in that fair coun-try, coun - try

A. share all things, in that fair coun-try, coun - try

T. share all things, in that fair coun-try, coun - try

Bar. share all things, in that fair coun-try, in that fair coun - try

B. share all things, in that fair coun-try, in that fair coun - try

Pno. *mf*

---

12 *mp*

S. — you re - mind me of? Charm-ing in the dawn There,

M-S. — you re - mind me of? Charm-ing in the dawn There,

A. — you re - mind me of? Charm-ing in the dawn There,

T. — you re - mind me of? There, there, Charm-ing in the

Bar. — you re - mind me of? There, there, Charm-ing in the

B. — you re - mind me of? There, there, Charm-ing in the

Pno. *mp*

16

S. there, the half-with-drawn *f* drenched, my-ste-ri-ous sun ap-pears in the cur-dled

M-S. there, the half-with- drawn *f* drenched sun ap-pears in the cur-dled

A. there, the half-with-drawn *f* drenched sun ap-pears

T. dawn, the half-with-drawn *f* drenched sun ap-pears

Bar. dawn, the half-with-drawn *f* drenched sun ap-pears

B. dawn, the half-with-drawn *f* drenched sun ap-pears in the cur-dled skies.

Pno.

20

S. skies. Treacher-ous, their tears.

M-S. skies. Treacher-ous as your eyes, their tears.

A. in the cur-dled skies. Shin-ing from-be-hind their tears, their tears.

T. in the cur-dled skies. Shin-ing from-be-hind their tears, their tears.

Bar. in the cur-dled skies. Treacher-ous as your eyes. be-hind their tears, their tears.

B. Eyes, their tears.

Pno.

24 **Più mosso** ♩ = 76

*mp* *mf* *rit.*

S. There, re-strait and or-der re-strait and or-der

M-S. re-strait and or-der

A. re-strait and or-der

T. *mp* There, re-strait and or-der, re-strait and or-der

Bar. re-strait and or-der

B. re-strait and or-der

Pno. *mp* *mf* *rit.*

**Più mosso** ♩ = 76

27 **Tempo primo**

*f*

S. bless lux - u - ry, bless lux - u - ry and vo - lup - - -

M-S. bless lux - u - ry, bless lux - u - ry and vo - lup - - -

A. bless lux - u - ry, bless lux - u - ry and vo - lup - - -

T. bless lux - u - ry, bless lux - u - ry and vo - lup - - -

Bar. bless lux - u - ry, bless lux - u - ry and vo - lup - - -

B. bless lux - u - ry, bless lux - u - ry and vo - lup - - -

Pno. *f*

**Tempo primo** 3

31

S. - - - tu - ous - ness.

M-S. - - - tu - ous - ness.

A. - - - tu - ous - ness, vo - lup - tu - ous - ness.

T. - - - tu - ous - ness, *mf* We should

Bar. - - - tu - ous - ness, vo - lup - tu - ous - ness. *mf* We should

B. - - - tu - ous - ness. *mf* We, we should have a

Pno. *mf*

35

S. *mf* Ne - ver out of bloom:

M-S. *mf* Room, a room, a room *mf* Ne - ver out of bloom:

A. *mf* have a room, a room, a room *mf* Out of bloom:

T. *mf* have a room, a room *mf* Ne - ver out of bloom:

Bar. *mf* have a room. *mf* Out of bloom:

B. *mf* room, a room, we should have a room, a room *mf* Out of bloom:

Pno. *mf*

39

*f* *dim.*

S. Ta - bles pol - ished by the palm of the van - ished hours,

M-S. Ta - bles pol - ished by the palm, palm of the van - ished hours, *dim.*

A. Ta - bles pol - ished by the palm, palm, hours, *dim.*

T. Ta - bles, ta - bles pol - ished by the palm hours, *dim.*

Bar. Ta - bles, ta - bles pol - ished by the palm Should re - flect rare

B. Ta - bles, ta - bles pol - ished by the palm hours, *dim.*

Pno. *f* *dim.*

43

*p* *p* *mp* *mp* *p* *p* *mp* *p* *mp*

S. flow'rs In that am - ber scent - ed calm;

M-S. flow'rs In that am - ber scent - ed calm;

A. flow'rs In that am - ber scent - ed calm; Ceil - ings rich - ly wrought

T. flow'rs, am - ber scent - ed calm; Ceil - ings rich - ly wrought

Bar. flow'rs, am - ber scent - ed calm;

B. flow'rs, am - ber scent - ed calm;

Pno. *p* *mp*



48 *mp*

S. Mir-rors deep as thought, Walls with east - ern splen - dor hung,

M-S. Mir-rors deep as thought Walls with east - ern splen - dor hung,

A. Walls with east - ern splen - dor hung,

T. Walls with east - ern splen - dor hung,

Bar. Mir-rors deep as thought Walls with east - ern splen - dor hung,

B. Mir-rors deep as thought, Walls with east - ern splen - dor hung,

Pno.

51

S. All should speak a - part To the home-sick heart,

M-S. All should speak a - part To the home-sick heart,

A. All should speak a - part To the home-sick heart In its

T. All should speak a - part To the home-sick heart In its

Bar. All should speak a - part To the home-sick heart,

B. All should speak a - part heart, To a home-sick heart,

Pno.

Più mosso ♩ = 76

55

S. na - tive tongue.

M-S. dear na - tive tongue. There re-strait and or-der

A. own dear na - tive tongue.

T. own dear na - tive tongue.

Bar. dear na - tive tongue. There re-strait and or-der

B. na - tive tongue.

Pno. *mf*

58

S. *mf* There re-strait and or-der re - strait and or- der bless 3

M-S. re - strait and or-der bless 3

A. re - strait and or-der bless 3

T. *mf* There re - strait and or-der re - strait and or-der bless 3

Bar. re - strait and or-der bless 3

B. re - strait and or-der bless 3

Pno. *f* rit. - - - - Tempo primo 3

61

S. lux - u - ry, bless lux - u - ry and vo - lup - - - - - tu - ous -

M-S. lux - u - ry, bless lux - u - ry and vo - lup - - - - - tu - ous -

A. lux - u - ry, bless lux - u - ry and vo - lup - - - - - tu - ous -

T. lux - u - ry, bless lux - u - ry and vo - lup - - - - - tu - ous -

Bar. lux - u - ry, bless lux - u - ry and vo - lup - - - - - tu - ous -

B. lux - u - ry, bless lux - u - ry and vo - lup - - - - - tu - ous -

Pno.

65

S. ness. See their voy-age past,

M-S. ness. See, their voy - age

A. ness, vo-lup-tu-ous- ness, bless vo - lup-tu-ous- ness. See, their voy - age

T. ness. bless vo - lup-tu-ous- ness. See, their voy - age

Bar. ness, vo-lup-tu-ous- ness, bless vo - lup-tu-ous-ness. See, their voy - age

B. ness. See their voy-age

Pno.

71

S. *pp*  
fast, On the still ca - nals a-sleep.

M-S. *pp*  
past, To their moor - ings fast, On the still ca - nals a-sleep.

A. *pp*  
past, To their moor - ings fast, On the still ca - nals a-sleep.

T. *pp*  
past, \_\_\_\_\_ to their moor-ings fast, On the still ca - nals a-sleep.

Bar. *pp*  
past, \_\_\_\_\_ to their moor-ings fast, On the still ca - nals a-sleep.

B. *pp*  
past, \_\_\_\_\_ to their moor-ings fast, On the still ca - nals a-sleep.

Pno. *pp*

76

S. *mp* *f* *rit.*  
These big ships; They have braved the fu-ri-ous deep.

M-S. *mp* *f*  
These big ships; to bring you some tri - fling thing They have braved the fu-ri-ous deep.

A. *mp* *f*  
These big ships; to bring you some tri - fling thing They have braved the fu-ri-ous deep.

T. *mp* *f*  
These big ships; to bring you some tri - fling thing They have braved the fu-ri-ous deep.

Bar. *mp* *f*  
These big ships; to bring you some tri - fling thing They have braved the fu-ri-ous deep.

B. *mp* *f*  
These big ships; to bring you some tri - fling thing They have braved the fu-ri-ous deep.

Pno. *mp* *f* *rit.*

82 *A tempo* ♩ = 56

S. *p* Now, now the sun goes down, Tint - ing dyke and town, *mp* Field, ca - nal,

M-S. *p* Now, dyke and town, *mp* Field, ca - nal,

A. *p* Now, dyke and town, *mp* Field, ca - nal,

T. *p* Down, dyke and town, *mp* Field, ca - nal

Bar. *p* Down, dyke and town, *mp* Field, ca - nal,

B. *p* Down, dyke and town, *mp* Field, ca - nal,

Pno. *p* *A tempo* ♩ = 56 *mp*

87 *mf*

S. *mf* all things in sight, Hy - a - cinth and gold; all that we be - hold

M-S. *mf* all things in sight, Hy - a - cinth and gold; all that we be - hold

A. *mf* all things in sight, Hy - a - cinth and gold; all that we be - hold

T. *mf* all things in sight. Hy - a - cinth and gold; all that we be - hold

Bar. *mf* all things in sight. Hy - a - cinth and gold; all that we be - hold

B. *mf* all things in sight, Hy - a - cinth and gold; All that we be - hold

Pno. *mf*

90

S. Slum - bers in its rud - dy light.

M-S. Slum - bers in its rud - dy light.

A. Slum - bers in its rud - dy light.

T. Slum - bers in its rud - dy light.

Bar. Slum - bers in its rud - dy light.

B. Slum - bers in its rud - dy light.

Pno.

**Più mosso** ♩ = 76

95

S. There, re-strait and or-der,

M-S. There, re strait and or der,

A. There, re-strait and or-der,

T. There, re-strait and or-der,

Bar. There, re strait and or der,

B. There, re-strait and or-der,

Pno.

98

S. *p* There, re-strait and or-der, re-strain and or-der *rit. mp*

M-S. *p* There re-strait and or der, re-strait and or-der *mp*

A. *p* There, re-strait and or der, re-strait and or-der *mp*

T. *p* There, re-strait and or-der, re-strait and or-der *mp*

Bar. *p* There re-strait and or der, re-strait and or-der *mp*

B. *p* There re-strait and or der, re-strait and or-der *mp*

Pno. *mp* *rit.*

101 **Tempo primo**

S. *f* *ff* bless lux - u - ry, bless lux - u - ry and vo - lup

M-S. *f* *ff* bless lux - u - ry, bless lux - u - ry and vo - lu(h) - u(h) -

A. *f* *ff* bless lux - u - ry, bless lux - u - ry and vo - lu(h) - u(h) -

T. *f* *ff* bless lux - u - ry, bless lux - u - ry and vo - lu(h) - u(h) -

Bar. *f* *ff* bless lux - u - ry, bless lux - u - ry and vo - lu(h) - u(h) -

B. *f* *ff* bless lux - u - ry, bless lux - u - ry and vo - lu(h) - u(h) -

Pno. *f* *ff*

105

S. *f* tu - ous - ness, Bless *f*

M-S. up - - tu - ous - ness. Bless *f*

A. up - - tu - ous - ness, vo - lup - tu - ous - ness. Bless *f*

T. up - - tu - ous - ness. Bless *f*

Bar. up - - tu - ous - ness, vo - lup - tu - ous - ness. Bless *f*

B. up - - tu - ous - ness. Bless *f*

Pno. *f*

108

S. lux - u - ry and vo - lup - tu - ous ness.

M-S. lux - u - ry and vo - lup - tu - ous - ness.

A. lux - u - ry and vo - lup - tu - ous - ness.

T. lux - u - ry and vo - lup - tu - ous - ness.

Bar. lux - u - ry and vo - lup - tu - ous - ness.

B. lux - u - ry and vo - lup - tu - ous - ness.

Pno.