

# Ulysses

*an excerpt from the poem by  
Alfred, Lord Tennyson*

*set for voice and piano*

by

F L Dunkin Wedd

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# Ulysses

*(excerpt)*

Death closes all: but something ere the end,  
Some work of noble note, may yet be done,  
Not unbecoming men that strove with Gods.  
The lights begin to twinkle from the rocks:  
The long day wanes: the slow moon climbs: the deep  
Moans round with many voices. Come, my friends,  
'Tis not too late to seek a newer world.  
Push off, and sitting well in order smite  
The sounding furrows; for my purpose holds  
To sail beyond the sunset, and the baths  
Of all the western stars, until I die.  
It may be that the gulfs will wash us down:  
It may be we shall touch the Happy Isles,  
And see the great Achilles, whom we knew.  
Tho' much is taken, much abides; and tho'  
We are not now that strength which in old days  
Moved earth and heaven, that which we are, we are;  
One equal temper of heroic hearts,  
Made weak by time and fate, but strong in will  
To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield.

*Alfred, Lord Tennyson, 1833*

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# Ulysses

For two lovely friends: Matthew Corkern and Roberto Mancusi

Poem by Tennyson  
(excerpt)

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$\text{♩} = 48$

*p* *p*

Death clo - ses all: but some - thing ere the end

*p*

Pianist: feel free to roll the chords whenever you feel like it

Detailed description: This system contains the first two staves of music. The vocal line is in bass clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 2/2 time signature. It begins with a half note 'Death' followed by a quarter note 'clo - ses', a comma, a quarter note 'all:', a quarter note 'but', a quarter note 'some - thing', a quarter note 'ere', a quarter note 'the', and a half note 'end'. The piano accompaniment is in treble and bass clefs with the same key signature and time signature. It features a series of chords in the right hand and a simple bass line in the left hand. Dynamics include piano (*p*) and a pianissimo (*pp*) section.

some work of no - ble note some work may yet be done

Detailed description: This system contains the second two staves of music. The vocal line continues with a quarter note 'some', a quarter note 'work', a quarter note 'of', a quarter note 'no - ble', a quarter note 'note', a quarter note 'some', a quarter note 'work', a quarter note 'may', a quarter note 'yet', and a half note 'be done'. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and a bass line.

*mf*

Work not un - be - co - ming men not

*mf*

Detailed description: This system contains the third two staves of music. The vocal line begins with a half note 'Work', a quarter note 'not', a quarter note 'un - be -', a quarter note 'co -', a quarter note 'ming', a quarter note 'men', and a half note 'not'. The piano accompaniment features chords and a bass line. Dynamics include mezzo-forte (*mf*).

un · be · co · ming men that strove with Gods

*f*  
not un · be · co · ming men that strove with

Gods. *p* The lights be · gin to twin · kle *mf* The

lights be · gin to twin · kle from the rocks *f* The long day

wanes the slow moon climbs the deep moans

round with ma - ny voi - ces. Come my friends 'tis

not too late to seek a ne - wer world. Push off and sit - ting

well in or - der smite the soun - ding fur - rows for my pur - pose

holds To sail be-yond the sun - set and the baths of all the

we - stern stars un - til I die un - til I die

It may be that the gulfs will wash us

down It may be we shall touch the Hap - py Isles

*ff*

*p*

*mf*

*ff*

*p*

*mf*

*f* and see the great A-chil-les *mf* whom we knew *rit*

*a tempo* *f* Though much is sta-ken much a -

bides and though we are not now that strength which in old

days moved earth and hea-ven *p* moved earth and hea-ven

*mf* 3 3

though we are not that strength that which we are, we

The first system of the musical score features a vocal line in the bass clef and piano accompaniment in both treble and bass clefs. The key signature has three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The vocal line begins with a rest, followed by a triplet of eighth notes (F#, G#, A) and another triplet (B, C, D). The piano accompaniment consists of chords and single notes in both hands.

are One e-qual tem- per of he-ro-ic hearts Made

*mf* 3

The second system continues the vocal line with the lyrics 'are One e-qual tem- per of he-ro-ic hearts Made'. The vocal line has a triplet of eighth notes (F#, G#, A) and a dotted quarter note (B). The piano accompaniment continues with chords and single notes.

weak by time and fate yet strong in will To strive to

The third system features the vocal line with lyrics 'weak by time and fate yet strong in will To strive to'. The vocal line includes a dotted quarter note (F#) and a half note (G#). The piano accompaniment continues with chords and single notes.

*ffe* e e e

seek to find and not to yield.

*ff* *rit* *mf* *mp*

The fourth system concludes the vocal line with the lyrics 'seek to find and not to yield.'. The vocal line has a dotted quarter note (F#) and a half note (G#). The piano accompaniment features a dynamic shift from *ff* to *mf* and *mp*, and a tempo marking of *rit* (ritardando).