



EPILOGUE

from *Meg Blane - A Rhapsody of the Sea*

for
Mezzo-Soprano Solo, Chorus and Orchestra

Words written by Thomas Buchanan

Music By
Samuel Coleridge-Taylor
Op. 48 (1902)

Full Score

COVER IMAGE

“Lighthouse on a Cliff by Moonlight” by Hermann Eschke, 1879

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The “renaissance” in English music is generally agreed to have started in the late Victorian period, beginning roughly in 1880. Public demand for major works in support of the annual choral festivals held throughout England at that time was considerable which led to the creation of many large scale works for orchestra with soloists and chorus.

Although a number of those works were engraved, printed and are regularly performed today, performance scores for a considerable number of compositions, both large-scale and more intimate works, are not available. These works were either never engraved or were engraved and printed but are no longer available in the publishers’ catalogues. While the existence of these works is documented in biographies of the composers, the ability to study and, most importantly, to perform these compositions is not possible.

Changes in the International copyright laws, coupled with changing musical tastes, played a pivotal role in creating this void. As a result, music publishers lost the ability to generate revenue from the sale/rental of such music. In 1964, holograph and copyist scores from both Novello and from publishers it represented were offered to the British Library and the Royal College of Music Library (see *The RCM Novello Library – The Musical Times*, Feb. 1983 by Jeremy Dibble).

These autograph full score manuscripts along with copies of engraved vocal scores, widely available through various online library sources, are now the only resources available for studying and performing these works.

The English Heritage Music Series has been created to ensure that these compositions are preserved, are accessible for scholarly research and, most importantly, are available for performance by future generations. Its mission is to:

- Source non-engraved/out-of-print English composer compositions that are in the U.S. public domain
- Preserve these compositions through the preparation of performance scores using notation software
- Provide open Internet access to the scores to facilitate study, performance and sharing of performance material (program notes, audio, reviews, etc.)

In preparing the English Heritage Music Series editions, every effort has been made to adhere strictly to the notation contained in the manuscripts. Because of the passage of time and its effect on the condition of the manuscript, the absence of clear information often times by the composer in notating divided instruments, and with emendations in the composer and other hands resulting from use of the manuscript in performance, there were numerous circumstances which required interpretation and decisions for notes, accidentals, dynamics, articulations and tempi.

Should questions arise in the use of these editions, the composers’ autograph manuscripts and the Novello vocal scores should be consulted for clarification.

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SOURCE INFORMATION

<i>Full Score (Original)</i>	Royal College of Music Library, London (GB-Lcm): MS 4868
<i>Full Score (Copyist)</i>	Royal College of Music Library, London (GB-Lcm): MS 4867
<i>Vocal Score</i>	Novello and Company, Limited, no. 11307 © 1902

REFERENCE MATERIAL AND SOFTWARE

Notation Software: Dorico Pro Version 4.3.11.1117 *Audio Software:* NotePerformer 3
Graphic Software: Affinity Photo
Document Software: Affinity Publisher 1.10.5.1342
Music Notation Reference: [Behind Bars](#) by Elaine Gould, Faber Music © 2011

PROLOGUE

“Lord, hearken to me !
Save all poor souls at sea!
Thy breath is on their cheeks—
Their cheeks are wan with fear ;
No man speaks,
For who could hear ?

The wild white water screams,
The wind cries loud ;
The fireflaught gleams
On tattered sail and shroud !

Under the red mast-light
The hissing surges slip ;
Thick reeks the storm of night
Round him that steers the ship—
And his eyes are blind,
And he knows not where they run.
Lord, be kind !
Whistle back Thy wind
For the sake of Christ Thy Son !”

. . . Black was the oozy lift,
Black were the sea and land ;
Hither and thither, thick with foam and drift,
Did the deep waters shift,
Swinging with iron clash on stone and sand.
Faintlier the heavy rain was falling,
Faintlier, faintlier the wind was calling,
With hollower echoes up the drifting dark !
While the swift rockets shooting through the night
Flash'd past the foam-fleck'd reef with phantom light,
And shewed the piteous outline of the bark,
Rising and falling like a living thing,
Shuddering, shivering,
While, howling beastlike, the white breakers there
Spat blindness in the dank eyes of despair.
Then one cried, “She has sunk !” — and on the shore
Men shook, and on the heights the women cried ;
But, lo ! The outline of the bark once more !
While flashing faint the blue light rose and died.

Ah, God, put out Thy hand ! All for the sake
Of little ones, and weary hearts that wake
Be gentle ! Chain the fierce waves with a chain !
Let the gaunt seaman's little boys and girls
Sit on his knee and play with his black curls
Yet once again !

And breathe the frail lad safely through the foam
Back to the hungry mother in her home !
And spare the bad man with the frenzied eye ;
Kiss him, for Christ's sake, bid Thy death go by—
He hath no heart to die !

Now faintlier blew the wind, the thin rain ceased,
The thick cloud cleared like smoke from off the strand,
For, lo ! A bright blue glimmer in the East—
God putting out His hand.

And overhead the rack grew thinner too,
And through the smoky gorge
The wind drave past the stars, and faint they flew
Like sparks blown from a forge.

And now the thousand foam-flames o' the sea
Hither and thither flashing visibly ;
And gray lights hither and thither came and fled,
Like dim shapes searching for the drownèd dead ;
And where these shapes most thickly glimmer'd by,
Out on the cruel reef the black hulk lay,
And cast, against the kindling Eastern sky,
Its shape gigantic on the shrouding spray.

Silent upon the shore, the fishers fed
Their eyes on horror, waiting for the close,
When in the midst of them a shrill voice rose :
“The boat ! The boat !” it said.
Like creatures startled from a trance, they turned
To her who spake : tall in the midst stood she,
With arms uplifted, and with eyes that yearned
Out on the murmuring sea.

Some shrugging shoulders, homeward turned their eyes,
And others answered back in brutal speech ;
But some, strong-hearted, uttering shouts and cries,
Followed the fearless woman up the beach.

A rush to seaward—black confusion—then
A struggle with the surf upon the strand—
Mid shrieks of women, cries of desperate men,
The long oars smite, the black boat springs from land !

Around the thick spray flies ;
The waves roll on and seem to overwhelm,
With blowing hair and onward gazing eyes
The woman stands erect, and grips the helm . . .

Now fearless heart, Meg Blane, or all must die !
Let not the skilled hand thwart the steadfast eye.

The crested wave comes near—crag-like it towers
Above you, scattering round its chilly showers :
One flutter of the hand, and all is done !
Now steel thy heart, thou woman-hearted one !
Softly the good helm guides ;

Round to the liquid ridge the boat leaps light—
Hidden an instant—on the foaming height,
Dripping and quivering like a bird it rides.
Athwart the ragged rift the moon looms pale,
Driven before the gale,
And making silvern shadows with her breath,
Where on the shining sea it shimmereth ;
And, lo ! The light illumines the reef ; 'tis shed
Full on the wreck, as the dark boat draws nigh.
A crash ! — the wreck upon the reef is fled ;
A scream ! — and all is still beneath the sky,
Save the wild waters as they whirl and cry.

EPILOGUE

“Lord, hearken to me !
Save all poor souls at sea !
Thy breath is on their cheeks—
Their cheeks are wan with fear ;
No man speaks,
For who could hear ?

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The wind cries loud ;
The fireflaught gleams
On tattered sail and shroud !

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The hissing surges slip ;
Thick reeks the storm of night
Round him that steers the ship—
And his eyes are blind,
And he knows not where they run.
Lord, be kind !
Whistle back Thy wind
For the sake of Christ Thy Son !”

Robert Buchanan



Ships in Distress off a Rocky Coast

Ludolf Backhuysen - 1667

MEG BLANE

A Rhapsody of the Sea

Robert Buchanan

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor

Lento molto espressivo

Piccolo

Flute 1/2

Oboe 1/2

Clarinet in A 1/2

Bassoon 1.2

Horn in F 1/2

Horn in F 3.4

Trumpet in F 1.2

Trombone 1.2

Bass Trombone

Tuba

Timpani

Bass Drum

Crash Cymbal

Side Drum

Mezzo-soprano

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Organ

Harp

Violin I

Violin II

Viola

Violoncello

Double Bass

mp

Lord! hear - en to me! Save all poor souls at sea!

mp

f

ff

dim.

ff

dim.

ff

dim.

Meg Blane - A Rhapsody of the Sea: Epilogue

1

Fl. 1 2

Ob. 1 2

Cl. in A 1 2

Bsn. 1 2

Hn in F 1 2

Hn in F 3 4

Tpt in F 1 2

Tbn. 1 2

B. Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

M.S.

S.

A.

T.

B.

Sw.

Org.

Hp.

Vln I

Vln II

Vla.

Vc.

D. B.

1. *mp* *mf*

p *mp* *mf* *pp*

pp *mf* *dim.*

mf *p*

Thy breath is on their cheeks. Their cheeks are wan with

"Lord! heark - en to me! Save all poor souls at sea!"

pp *mp* *mf* *pp* *pp* *dim....*

pizz. *arco* *pizz.*

p *mp* *mf* *pp* *pp* *dim....*

p *mp* *mf* *pp* *pp* *dim....*

p *mp* *mf* *pp* *pp* *dim....*

Meg Blane - A Rhapsody of the Sea: Epilogue

musical score for various instruments including Piccolo, Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon, Horns, Trumpets, Trombones, Tuba, Timpani, Bass Drum, M.S., Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass, Organ, Harp, Violin I, Violin II, Viola, Violoncello, and Double Bass. The score includes dynamic markings such as *mf*, *f*, *p*, *pp*, *mp*, *dim.*, and *tr*, and tempo markings like *rall* and *a tempo*. It also features a vocal line with lyrics: "No man speaks, For who could hear? Lord! heark - en to me! Save all poor souls at sea! Lord! Save all poor souls, Lord! Save all poor souls, Lord! Save all poor souls, Lord!"

Meg Blane - A Rhapsody of the Sea: Epilogue

Più agitato 5 *poco accel.* *p*

Fl. 1 2
Ob. 1 2
Cl. in A 1 2
Ban. 1 2
Hn in F 1 2
Hn in F 3 4
Tpt in F 1 2
Tbn. 1.2
B. Tbn.
Tba
Timp.
S.
A.
T.
B.
Org.
Hp
Vln I
Vln II
Vla
Vc.
D. B.

f *dim.* *p* *p* *mp* *pp* *p* *mf*

dim. *sea.* *pp* *mp*

hear - en to me Save all poor souls at sea, save all poor souls, all poor souls at sea! Their cheeks are wan with

Save all

hear - en to me! all poor souls at sea, save all poor souls at sea! Thy breath is on their cheeks. Their cheeks are wan with

Save all poor souls at

hear - en to me! Save all sea, save all poor souls at sea! Thy breath is on their cheeks. Their cheeks are wan with

f *dim.* *pp* *mp* is on their

hear - en! hear - en to me! Save all at sea, save all at sea! Thy breath is on their cheeks. Their cheeks are wan with

f *pp* *mp* *pizz.* *p* *mp* *arco*

p *mp* *p* *p* *div.* *p*

f *p* *mp* *p* *pizz.* *p* *mp* *arco*

Meg Blane - A Rhapsody of the Sea: Epilogue

6 *rall.*..... *poco agitato* *molto accel.*

Orchestra:
 Picc., Fl. 1 & 2, Ob. 1 & 2, Cl. in A 1 & 2, Bsn. 1 & 2, Hn in F 1 & 2, Hn in F 3 & 4, Tpt in F 1 & 2, Tbn. 1 & 2, B. Tbn., Tba., Timp., Sn. Dr., M.S., Org., Hp., Vln I & II, Vla., Vc., D. B.

Vocal Soloists:
 S., A., T., B.

Lyrics:
 S: fear; No man speaks, For who could hear? The wild white wa - ter screams, The wind cries loud;
 A: fear; No man speaks, For who could hear? Lord! heark - en to me! The wild white wa - ter screams, The
 T: fear; No man speaks, For who could hear? Lord! heark - en to me! The wild white wa - ter screams, The
 B: fear; No man speaks, For who could hear? The wild white wa - ter screams, The

Performance Markings:
 Dynamics: *mf*, *cresc.*, *f*, *pp*, *p*, *sf*, *ff*
 Tempo: *rall.*, *poco agitato*, *molto accel.*
 Articulation: *tr*, *acc.*, *tr*, *sf*
 Fingerings: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

Meg Blane - A Rhapsody of the Sea: Epilogue

94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103

Meg Blane - A Rhapsody of the Sea: Epilogue

Fl. 1.2 *tr* *mp dim.* *p* *pp* *f* *mf*

Ob. 1.2 *1.* *pp* *f* *pp* *mf*

Cl. in A 1.2 *mp* *dim.* *pp* *mf*

Bsn 1.2 *mp* *dim.* *p* *pp* *p*

Hn in F 1.2 *mp* *dim.* *p* *pp* *mf* *pp*

Hn in F 3.4 *p* *pp* *p*

Tpt in F 1.2

Tbn. 1.2

B. Tbn.

Tba

Timp. *pp* *pp*

M.S. *mf* Un - der the red_ mast light.

S. *dim.* *p* *pp* the fire - flaught gleams on_ tatt - er'd_ sail and_ shroud!_ Un - der the red_ mast

A. *dim.* *pp* *pp* shroud, the fire - - - flaught gleams on tatt - er'd sail and shroud! Un - der the red mast

T. *dim.* *pp* *pp* shroud, the fire - - - flaught gleams on tatt - er'd sail and shroud! Un - der the red mast

B. *dim.* *pp* *pp* shroud, the fire - - - flaught gleams on sail_ and shroud! Un - der the red mast

Org. *p* *pp* *p*

Harp *mf* *dim.* *p* *pp* *mf*

Vln I *3* *mp 3* *3* *3* *3* *pp* *mf* *pp* *mf*

Vln II *3* *mp 3* *3* *3* *3* *pp* *mf* *pp* *mf*

Vla. *3* *mp* *dim.* *pizz.* *p* *pp* *mf* *pp*

Vc. *dim.* *pizz. arco* *pp* *pp* *mf* *pp* *cresc.* *mf*

D.B. *arco* *pp* *pp* *pp* *pp* *cresc.* *mf*

8

Meg Blane - A Rhapsody of the Sea: Epilogue

Fl. 1 2 *mf* *mp* *cresc.* *f* *f*

Ob. 1.2 *mf*

Cl. in A 1.2 *p* *cresc.* *mf* *cresc.*

Bsn. 1.2 *mf* *p* *cresc.* *mf* *cresc.*

Hn in F 1 2 *mf* *p* *cresc.* *mf*

Hn in F 3.4 *mf*

Tpt in F 1 2

Tbn. 1.2

B. Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

M.S. *f*
Thick reeks the storm of night

S. *pp* *mf* *f*
light The hiss - ing sur - ges slip; Thick reeks the storm of night Round

A. *pp* *mf* *f*
light The hiss - ing sur - ges slip; Thick reeks the storm, the storm of night Round

T. *pp* *mf* *f*
light The hiss - ing sur - ges slip; Thick reeks the storm of night Round

B. *pp* *mf* *f*
light The hiss - ing sur - ges slip; Thick reeks the storm of night Round

Org. *mf*

Vln I *mf* *p* *cresc.* *mf* *mf* *div.* *mf*

Vln II *mf* *p* *cresc.* *mf* *mf*

Vla. *mf* *mp* *cresc.* *mf* *mf*

Vc. *arco* *sf* *mf* *pizz.*

D. B.

Meg Blane - A Rhapsody of the Sea: Epilogue

a tempo

him that steers the ship. And his eyes are blind. And he knows not where they run!

him that steers the ship. And his eyes are blind. And he knows not where they run!

him that steers the ship. And his eyes are blind. And he knows not where they run!

him that steers the ship. And his eyes are blind. And he knows not where they run!

127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137

a tempo

Meg Blane - A Rhapsody of the Sea: Epilogue

10 rall.....

Fl. 1 2

Ob. 1 2

Cl. in A 1 2

Ban. 1 2

Hn in F 1 2

Hn in F 3 4

Tpt in F 1 2

Tbn. 1 2

B. Tbn.

Tba.

Timp.

M.S.

S.

A.

T.

B.

Org.

Hp.

Vin I

Vin II

Vla.

Vc.

D. B.

His eyes are blind, And he knows not where they run, he knows not where they run, he knows not where they run.

138 139 140 141 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155 156

Meg Blane - A Rhapsody of the Sea: Epilogue

11 a tempo

11 a tempo

Lord, be kind! Whis - tle back Thy wind! Lord, be kind! Whis - tle back Thy wind!

11 a tempo

Meg Blane - A Rhapsody of the Sea: Epilogue

12 largamente

13 a tempo

rall.....

Picc.

Fl. 1

Fl. 2

Ob. 1 2

Cl. in A 1 2

Bsn 1 2

Hn in F 1 2

Hn in F 3 4

Tpt in F 1 2

Tbn. 1 2

B. Tbn.

Tba

Timp.

B. Dr.

Cr. Cym.

M.S.

S.

A.

T.

B.

Org.

Hp

Vln I

Vln II

Vla

Ve.

D. B.

mf, *ff*, *pp*, *mp*, *ppp*, *dim.*, *cresc.*, *tr.*, *marcato*, *[Muta G to A]*

For the sake of Christ Thy Son, For the sake of Christ Thy Son! For the sake of Christ Thy Son, of Christ, Thy Son, of Christ Thy Son! For the sake of Christ Thy Son, for the sake of Christ, Thy Son, of Christ Thy Son!



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