

*sample copy*

Stephen Leek

Verticle\*Blue  
SATB acappella choir

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# Verticle\* Blue

Text: Kenneth Slessor\*

for SATB choir a cappella

Music: Stephen Leek

*for Jonathan*

♩ = 120 - 128 bright and colourful

Soprano *f* Deep, \_\_\_\_\_ Deep, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ Deep,

Alto \_\_\_\_\_ *f* Deep, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ Deep and \_\_\_\_\_

Tenor *f* \_\_\_\_\_ *f* \_\_\_\_\_ Deep, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ Deep,

Bass *f* \_\_\_\_\_ *f* \_\_\_\_\_ Deep, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ Deep,

**A** rit. molto

S. \_\_\_\_\_ and de - solv - - ing vert - i - cles of *mf*

A. \_\_\_\_\_ and de - solv - - ing vert - i - cles of *mf*

T. \_\_\_\_\_ and de - solv - - ing vert - i - cles of *mf*

B. \_\_\_\_\_ and de - solv - - ing vert - i - cles of *mf*

**Tempo** rit. meno mosso

S. *fp* light. *fp* Light. *mf* Fe - rry, Fe - rry the falls

A. *fp* light. *fp* Light. *mf* Fe - rry, Fe - rry the falls

T. *fp* light. *fp* Light. *mf* Fe - rry, Fe - rry the falls

B. *fp* light. *fp* Light. *mf* Fe - rry, fe - rry the falls

**B**

S. of moon - shine down, down.\* *mf* Fe - rry the

A. of moon - shine down, down.\* *mf* Fe - rry the

T. of moon - shine down, down.\* *mf* Fe - rry the

B. of moon - shine down, down.\* *mf* Fe - rry the

S. falls of moon - shine down,\* *fp* Five bells.

A. falls of moon - shine down,\* *fp* Five bells

T. falls of moon - shine down,\* *fp* Five bells

B. falls of moon - shine down,\* *fp* Five bells

\*sing through dypthong

rit.

**C** Tempo slow and thick

S. *fp* Five bells. Night and wa - ter, Pour to one

A. *f* Five bells. Night and wa - ter, Pour to one

T. *fp* Five bells. *f* Night and wa - ter, Pour to one

B. *fp* Five bells. *f* Night and wa - ter, Pour to one

molto rall.

**D** Largo rall.

S. rip of dark - ness The har - bour floats in air,

A. *mp* rip of dark - ness The har - bour floats in air,

T. *mp* rip of dark - ness The har - bour floats in air,

B. *mp* rip of dark - ness Ah *f*

**E** Tempo meno mosso

S. *mf* The cross hangs up - side down in the (ind.ad.lib.)

A. *mf* The cross hangs up - side down in the wa - ter (ind.ad.lib.)

T. *mf* The cross hangs up - side down in the (ind.ad.lib.)

B. *mf* The cross hangs up - side - down in the wa - ter (ind.ad.lib.)

S. *fp* Five bells, *fp* Five bells.

A. *fp* Five bells, *fp* Five bells.

T. *fp* Five bells, *fp* Five bells.

B. *fp* Five bells, *fp* Five bells.

**F** **Tempo Lento** **G**

S. (spoken, very dry) *p* Dead man

A. (spoken, very dry) *p* Dead man

T. *mp* Why do I think of you? dead man, Why thieve these pro-fit-less

B. *mp* Why do I think of you? dead man, Why thieve these pro-fit-less

S. *p* Dead man

A. *p* Dead man

T. lodg-ings for the flukes of thought An-chored in Time

B. lodg-ings for the flukes of thought An-chored in Time

**H** *very still and calm* **I**

S. Dead man, *mp* You have gone from the earth, *mf*

A. Dead man, *mp* Gone e-ven from the *mf*

T. Dead man, *mp* man, *(spoken, very dry)*

B. Dead man Dead man,

**J**

S. Dead. man, *pp* Dead. man, *pp*

A. mean-ing of a name. *pp* Dead. man, *pp* Dead. man, *pp*

T. Dead Dead man *pp* Dead man *pp*

B. Dead Dead man *pp* Dead man *pp*

*more movement*

S. Yet some-thing's there, *mf* Yet some-thing forms it's lips *ff* And

A. Yet some-thing's there, *mf* Yet some-thing forms it's lips

T. Dead man *mf* Yet some-thing's there, *mf* Yet some-thing forms it's lips

B. Dead man *mf* Yet some-thing's there, *mf* Yet some-thing forms it's lips

**K**

**molto rall.**

S. hits and cries, and hits and cries, hits and cries a-against the ports of space

A. and hits and cries and hits and cries and cries a-against the ports of space.

T. *ff* hits and cries a - gainst the ports of space.

B. *f* hits and cries a - gainst the ports of

**L** Tempo *whispered/spoken*

S. *pp* Dead man *mp* Dead man, *mf* Dead man,

A. *pp* Dead man *mp* Dead man, *mf* Dead man,

T. *pp* Dead man *mp* Are you shout-ing at me dead man? *mp* Dead man *f* Squee-zing your face in a-go-ny

B. *pp* Dead man *mp* Dead man,

S. (to nasal) Dead man, Cry beat the win-dows!

A. Are you shout-ing at me? Are you shout ing? Cry beat the win-dows!

T. dead man Cry *3* loud-er! *ff*

B. *f* in a - gon ies of speech of speech-less panes Cry *3* loud-er!

Tempo Lento

(to nasal)

S. Dead man, Cry beat the win-dows! Bawl your name!(M) *sub. ppp*

A. Are you shout-ing at me? Are you shout-ing? Cry beat the win-dows! Bawl your name!(M) *sub. (to nasal)*

T. Bawl your name! *fff*

B. Bawl your name! *fff*

*sim.indiv.ad.lib, ethereal*

S. Oo ar oo-ee Ar oo-aa *sim.ind.ad.lib*

A. *ppp (to non nasal)*

T. Dead man, Dead man. *pp*

B. Dead man, Dead man. *pp*

**M**

S. But I hear no-thing nothing, on - ly bells Five bells, *mp fp mf*

A. But I hear no-thing, But I hear nothing Bells Five *mp fp fp*

T. Bells Five *fp fp*

B. Bells Five *fp fp*

*nasal ← norm.*

*nasal ↔ norm.*



(spoken ind. ad.lib.) repeat ad. lib. etc.

S. *longshovedaway*

Your echoes die, Your voice is dowsed by Life,  
There's not a mouth can fly the pygmy strait - Nothing  
except the memory of some bones, long shoved away. *p*

A. bells, \_\_\_\_\_ Five bells, \_\_\_\_\_

T. bells, \_\_\_\_\_ Five bells. \_\_\_\_\_ Five

B. bells, \_\_\_\_\_ *fp* Five bells. *gliss.*

(solo spoken voice:)

S. \_\_\_\_\_

Time that is moved by little fidget wheels, is not  
my time, the flood that does not flow. Between  
the double and the single bell of a ships hour,  
between a round of bells, from the warship riding  
there below, I have lived many, lives, and this one life  
of Joe, long dead, who lives between five bells.

A. \_\_\_\_\_

T. \_\_\_\_\_

B. \_\_\_\_\_

Mmar ↔ Mmar (ind.ad.lib)

**N** Tempo ♩ = ca. 78 con molto rubato

S. I looked out of my win - dow, \_\_\_\_\_ in the

A. *mf* I looked out of my win - dow, \_\_\_\_\_ in the

T. *legato* Five bells, Five\_ bells, Ah \_\_\_\_\_ Ah \_\_\_\_\_

B. *mf* *legato* Five bells, Five\_ bells, Ah \_\_\_\_\_ Ah \_\_\_\_\_ Ah \_\_\_\_\_

*mp*

**molto rit.**

**Tempo**

S. *mf* dark... At waves with dia-mond quills... and combs of light... that arched their mack-'relled backs and smacked the

A. *mf* dark... waves with dia-mond quills... that arched their mack-'relled backs and smacked the

T. Ah... dordor dor dor... dor... dor dor...

B. Ah... dordor dor dor... dor... dor dor...

**O**

S. sand in the moon's drench, that straight e-nor-mous glaze, And ships far off a-sleep *mp*

A. sand in the moon's drench, that straight e-nor-mous glaze, And ships far off a-sleep *mp*

T. dordor dor... dor... Ah... Ah... Ah...

B. dordor dor... dor... Ah... Ah... Ah...

**P**

S. And har-bour bouys, Toss-ing their fire-balls wear-i-ly each to each, Ah *f*

A. And har-bour bouys, Toss-ing their fire-balls wear-i-ly each to each, Ah *f*

T. And har-bour har-bour bouys, Toss their fire - balls, Ah Ah Ah Five bells, Five *ff*

B. And har-bour har-bour bouys, Toss their fire - balls Ah... Five bells, Five

**accl.**

S. *mf* And tried to hear your voice, but all I heard

A. *mf* And tried to hear your voice, but all I heard

T. bells. Five bells, Ah Ah Ah

B. bells. Ah Five Bells Ah Ah

S. *ff* was a boat's whist - le and the *f*

A. *ff* was a boat's whist - le and the *f*

T. Ah Ah Ah

B. Ah Ah Five Bells Ah Ah Ah

**Q**

S. scrap - ing squeel of sea-birds far a - way.

A. scrap - ing squeel of sea-birds far a - way. *(to nasal)*

T. Ah Ah Ah

B. Five Bells Ah Ah Ah Ah Ah

11 **R** **Tempo Lento**

S. *fp* and bells, *mf* Five bells *zz*

A. *fp* Five bells Five(v) *(ad.lib.)*

T. *ffp* Ah *fp* Five bells *(ad.lib.)* Five(v)

B. *ffp* Ah - - MM *(ad.lib.)* Five(v)

S. cold - ly ring - ing out. *(free harmonic singing)*

A. bells, cold - ly ring - ing *(free harmonic singing)*

T. bells, cold - ly ring - ing *(free harmonic singing)*

B. bells, cold - ly ring - ing *p*

**S** **Tempo Lento** *whispered all: ind.ad.lib.*

S. *p* Five bells *pp* I have lived many lives, and this one life of Joe, long dead, who lives between Five Bells

A. *loud breath sound* Huh *ff* *p* Five bells *(norm. ↔ trem.)*

T. *loud breath sound* Huh *ff* *p* M ↔ OR

B. *loud breath sound* Huh *ff* *p* M ↔ OR

