

The water is wide

Scottisch/English Folk Song

Wytze Oostenbrug (*1943)

Andante

mf

Soprano

The wa-ter is wide, I can-not cross o ver.

Alto

The wa-ter is wide, I can-not cross o- ver.

Tenor

The wa-ter is wide, I

Bass

The wa-ter is wide, I

The first system of the musical score is for four voices: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and the time signature is 3/4. The tempo is marked 'Andante' and the dynamic is 'mf'. The Soprano and Alto parts have the lyrics 'The wa-ter is wide, I can-not cross o ver.' The Tenor and Bass parts have the lyrics 'The wa-ter is wide, I'. The music features a mix of eighth and quarter notes, with some measures containing rests.

7

— And nei-ther have I, the wings to fly.

— And nei-ther have I, the wings to fly.

can-not cross o - ver. And nei - ther have I, wings to fly.

can-not cross o - ver. And nei-ther have I, the wings to fly.

The second system of the musical score continues the four-voice setting. It begins with a measure rest in the Soprano and Alto parts, indicated by a '7' above the staff. The lyrics for all parts are 'And nei-ther have I, the wings to fly.' followed by a line rest. The Soprano and Alto parts have a final line rest. The Tenor and Bass parts have the lyrics 'can-not cross o - ver. And nei - ther have I, wings to fly.' The music continues with eighth and quarter notes, and some measures contain rests.

14

mf Build me a boat that can carry two, and both shall row, my true love *f*

mf Build me a boat that can carry two, and both shall row, my true love_ *f*

mf Build me a boat that can carry two, and both shall row, my true love *f*

mf Build me a boat that can carry two, and both shall row, my true love *f*

21

— and I A ship there is and she sails the seas. She's

— and_ the seas. She's

and I. sails the seas. She's

and I. A ship there is and she sails the seas. She's

28

la - den deep as deep can be; But not so deep as the *p*

la - den deep as deep can be; But not so deep as the *p*

la - den deep as deep can be; But not so deep as the *p*

la - den deep as deep can be; But not so deep as the *p*

35

pp

love I'm in, And I know not__ if I sink or swim.

pp

love I'm in, And I know not__ if I sink or swim.

pp

love I'm in, And I know not__ if I sink or swim.

pp

love I'm in, And I know not__ if I sink or swim.

42

mf

O love__ is hand-some and love is fine, Bright

mf

O is fine, Bright

mf

O love is fine,

mf

O love__ is hand some love is fine,

48

pp

as a je-wel when first it's new; But love grows old and

pp

as a je-wel when first it's new; But love grows old and

pp

Bright as je-wel when first it's new; But love grows old and

pp

Bright as je-wel when first it's new; But love grows old and

55 rit.

wa - xes cold, and fades a - way like the mor - ning dew.

wa - xes cold, and fades a - way like the mor - ning dew.

wa - xes cold, and fades a - way like the mor - ning dew.

wa - xes cold, and fades a - way like the mor - ning dew.

Delft, mei 2024



15. The water is wide

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The water is wide, I cannot cross o'er.
And neither have I the wings to fly.
Build me a boat that can carry two,
And both shall row, my true love and I.

A ship there is and she sails the seas.
She's laden deep, as deep can be;
But not so deep as the love I'm in,
And I know not if I sink or swim.

O love is handsome and love is fine,
Bright as a jewel when first it's new;
But love grows old and waxes cold,
And fades away like the morning dew.

Type: Sheet music

Título: [The water is wide \(No. 5 from 5 Folk Songs\)](#)

Compositor: [Wytze Oostenbrug](#)

Época: Siglo XXI

Tema: Naturaleza & entorno

Categoría: canciones folclóricas

Dificultad: Leicht bis mittel

Instrumentación Grupo: Coro mixto a capella

Arrangement: Coro>SATB

Instrumentación: Canto coro>voces de bajo = B (1),Canto coro>voces de contralto = A(1),Canto coro>voces de soprano = S(1),Canto coro>voces de tenor = T(1)

1.185 / 5.000

"The Water Is Wide" (also known as "O Waly, Waly" or simply "Waly, Waly") is a folk song of Scottish origin. It remains popular in the 21st century. Cecil Sharp published the song in Folk Songs From Somerset (1906).

The imagery of the song's lyrics describes the challenges of love: "Love is fair, love is kind" during the romantic honeymoon phase of any relationship. But over time, "love grows old and grows cold". Even true love, the lyrics say, can "fade like morning dew".

The modern text for "The Water Is Wide" was consolidated and named by Cecil Sharp in 1906 from several older sources in southern England, following English texts with very different stories and styles but the same meter. Earlier sources were often published as pamphlets without notes. Performers or publishers inserted, removed and adapted verses from one piece to another: Floating verses are also characteristic of hymns and blues verses. Hymn texts from different sources could be used with different melodies of the same meter. Accordingly, each verse of the modern hymn may not have been originally composed in the context of the verses surrounding it, nor is it thematically consistent.