

# No Man's Land

words and melody by Eric Bogle

arranged by Ken Johnston

for SATB voices with soloist (male or female) and piano

Eric Bogle is a Scottish-born singer-songwriter who emigrated to Australia at the end of the 1960's. His moving song about the First World War was written in the 1970's after he visited some of the battlefield sites and graveyards of northern France.

*No Man's Land* has been recorded in many versions by artists from all round the world. As a result, some versions have lyrics that are quite different to the original, and the song often appears with the title, *The green fields of France*.

In this arrangement, however, I have tried to be faithful to Eric Bogle's original lyrics. I have also incorporated in this arrangement the traditional melody, *The flowers of the forest*.

This arrangement composed 2000

First performance by the Aberdeen Youth Choir, directed by Ben Parry, August 2000

Recorded on CD by the National Youth Choir of Scotland, directed by Christopher Bell, 2002

Duration of piece: 10'

This piece can be performed on its own or as part of a suite of three songs about World War 1, composed / arranged by Ken Johnston.

The other two pieces are:

*In Flanders Fields*: words from the poem by John McCrae to original music (and also incorporating the tune *The flowers of the forest*), for unaccompanied SATB voices, duration 5'.

*Happed In Mist*: an arrangement of a song by Michael Marra for SATB voices and piano, duration 4'.

The order of pieces in this suite is: *In Flanders Fields* – *Happed In Mist* – *No Man's Land*, total duration 19'.

Each of these pieces can be performed effectively on its own, with one other, or as part of the whole suite.

# No Man's Land

for SATB voices with soloist (male or female) and piano

Words and melody by Eric Bogle  
 arranged by Ken Johnston  
 (incorporating the traditional tune  
*The flowers of the forest*)

Unhurried and quite free ♩ = 76

Alto

*pp*

ah -----\*(see below)

Piano

*pp*

Ped. \_\_\_\_\_ ^ etc.

5

A.

3

3

Pno

9

A.

**Faster** ♩ = 90

**Faster** ♩ = 90

Pno

13 male or female solo

*p* simple and folk-like

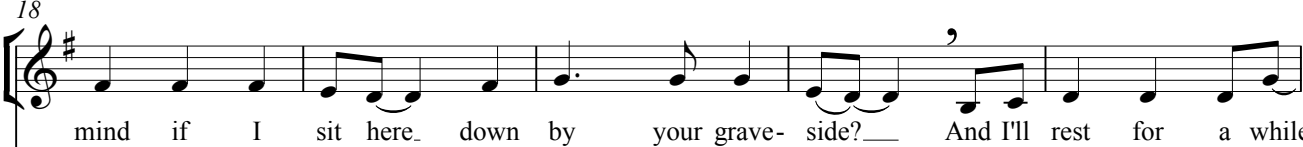
Well how do you do\_\_\_ Pri - vate Wil - lie\_\_\_ Mc - Bride, D'you

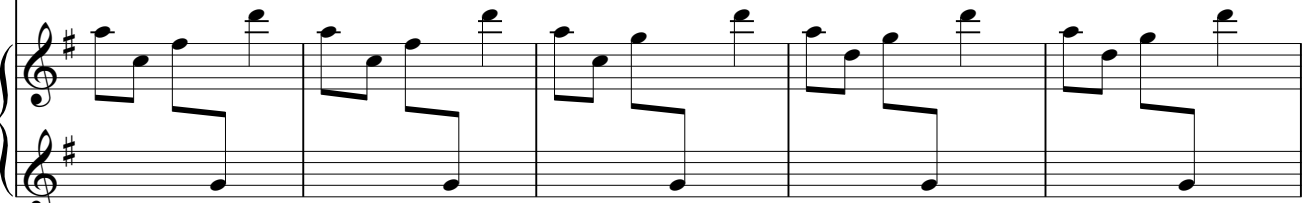
Pno

\* Throughout this piece, the wordless sections (based on 'The Flowers Of The Forest') should be sung as legato as possible to an 'ah' sound with very soft articulations eg. n, d, or l. on repeated notes. Stagger the breathing to allow an unbroken line.


Duration: 10'


18

Solo 


Pno 

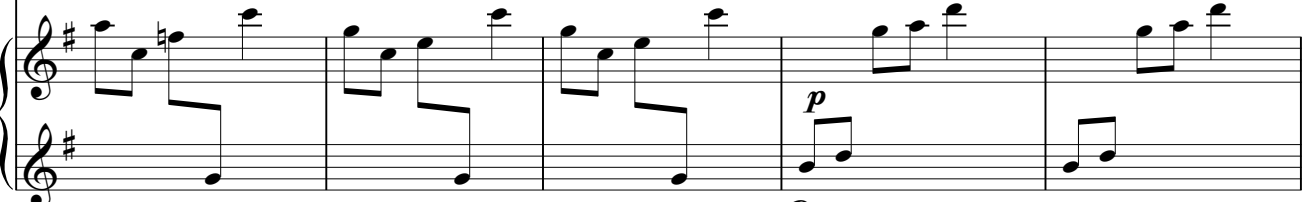
23

Solo 

Pno 


28

Solo 


Pno 


*mp*

*p*

*Ped.*  *etc.*

33

Solo 

Pno 

38 *p*

Solo

Pno

43 **A little slower** ♩ = 84

Solo

**A little slower** ♩ = 84

Pno

48 *p* (♩ = 84)

S.

A.

T.

B.

Pno

53

S. *mp*  
rif- les\_ fire o'er ye as they low - ered you down? \_\_\_\_\_ Did the bug - les\_ sing the

A. *mp*  
rif- les\_ fire o'er ye as they low - ered you down? \_\_\_\_\_ bug - les\_ sing the

T. *mp*  
rif- les\_ fire o'er ye as they low - ered you down? \_\_\_\_\_ bug - les\_ sing the

B. *mp*  
rif- les\_ fire o'er ye as they low - ered you down? \_\_\_\_\_ bug - les\_ sing the

Pno *mp*

59

S. *p*  
Last Post in cho - rus? \_\_\_\_\_ Did the pipes play The Flo'ers O' The

A. *p*  
Last Post in cho - rus? \_\_\_\_\_ ah

T. *p*  
Last Post in cho - rus? \_\_\_\_\_ ah

B. *p*  
Last Post in cho - rus? \_\_\_\_\_ ah

Pno *p*

64 **poco rit.** **Tempo 1** ♩ = 76

S. For - est?

A.

T. *mp* ah -----

B.

Pno **poco rit.** **Tempo 1** ♩ = 76 *p* Ped.  $\wedge$  etc.

68

T.

Pno


72 **Tempo 2** ♩ = 90 *mp*


A. Did you leave a wife\_ or a sweet- heart be- hind? In

T.

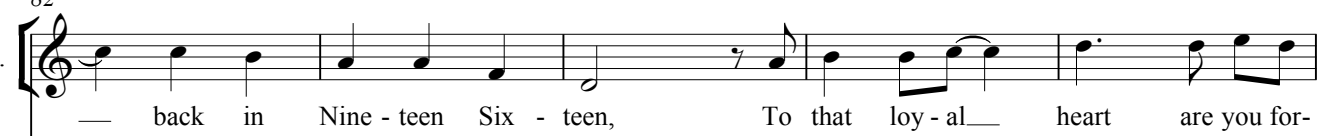
Pno **Tempo 2** ♩ = 90 *p*

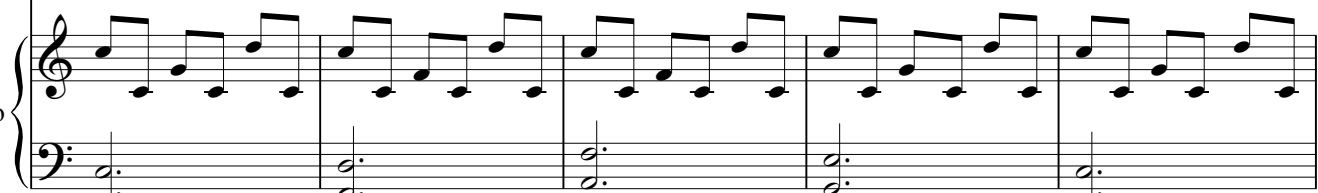
77

A. 

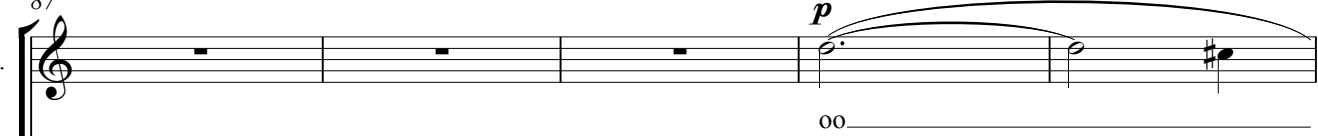
Pno 


82

A. 


Pno 

87

S. 

A. 

T. 

B. 

Pno 

Ped.  etc.

92

S.

A.

T.

B.

ev - en a name, For - ev - er en - shrined be - hind some glass

Pno

97

S.

A.

T.

B.

pane? In an old pho - to - graph torn and tat - tered and

Pno

102 *mp* **Tempo 3** ♩ = 84

S. And fad - ing to yel - low in a brown leath - er

A. stained, oo

T. stained, oo

B. stained, oo

*p*

Pno **Tempo 3** ♩ = 84 *mp*

106 *mp*

S. frame. Did they beat the drum slow - ly, did they

A. Did they beat the drum slow - ly, did they

T. Did they beat the drum slow - ly, did they

B. Did they beat the drum slow - ly,

*mp*

Pno *mp*

111

S. sound the fyfe low - ly?\_ Did the rif - les\_ fire o'er ye as they low - ered\_ you

A. sound the fyfe low - ly?\_ Did the rif - les\_ fire o'er ye as they low - ered\_ you

T. sound the fyfe low - ly?\_ Did the rif - les\_ fire o'er ye as they low - ered\_ you

B. sound the fyfe low - ly?\_ Did the rif - les\_ fire o'er ye as they low - ered\_ you

Pno

116

S. down?\_ Did the bug - les\_ sing the Last Post in cho - rus?\_

A. down?\_ bug - les\_ sing the Last Post in cho - rus?\_

T. down?\_ bug - les\_ sing the Last Post in cho - rus?\_

B. down?\_ bug - les\_ sing the Last Post in cho - rus?\_

Pno

121 *p* *poco rit.*

S. Did the pipes play The Flo'ers O' The For - -

A. *p* ah

T. *p* ah

B. *p* ah

Pno *p* *poco rit.*

125 **Tempo 1** ♩ = 76

S. est?

A. *mp* ah

T. *mp* ah

B. *mp* ah

Pno **Tempo 1** ♩ = 76 *mp* Ped. \_\_\_\_\_ ^ etc.

129

S. *mf* The

A. *mf* The

T. *poco cresc.*

B. *mf* The

Pno *poco cresc.*

132 **Tempo 2** ♩ = 90 *mf*

S. *mf* The sun's shin - ing now on these green fields of

A. sun's shin - ing now on these green fields of France, The

T. *mf* The sun's shin - ing now on these green fields of

B. sun's shin - ing now on these green fields of France, The

Pno **Tempo 2** ♩ = 90 *mf*

Ped.  $\wedge$  etc.

136

S. France, The warm wind blows gently, the red pop-pies

A. warm wind blows gently, the red pop-pies dance. The

T. France, The warm wind blows gently, the red pop-pies

B. warm wind blows gently, the red pop-pies dance. The

Pno

140

S. dance. The tren - ches have van - ished long un - der the

A. tren - ches have van - ished long un - der the plough, No

T. dance. The tren - ches have van - ished long un - der the

B. tren - ches have van - ished long un - der the plough, No

Pno

144

S. plough, No gas and no barbed wire, no guns fir - ing now. But\_

A. gas and no barbed wire, no guns fir - ing now.

T. plough, No gas and no barbed wire, no guns fir - ing now. But\_

B. gas and no barbed wire, no guns fir - ing now.

Pno

149

S. here in this grave- yard it's still No Man's Land, The count- less\_ white cros- ses\_ in

A. —

T. here in this grave- yard it's still No Man's Land, The count- less\_ white cros- ses\_ in

B. —

Pno

155

S. *f*  
 mute wit - ness stand \_\_\_\_\_ To man's blind in - dif - ference to his fel - low\_

A. *f*  
 To man's blind in - dif - ference to his fel - low\_

T. *f*  
 mute wit - ness stand \_\_\_\_\_ To man's blind in - dif - ference to his fel - low\_

B. *f*  
 To man's blind in - dif - ference to his fel - low\_

Pno *f*

161

S. *p* **Tempo 3** ♩ = 84  
 man, \_\_\_\_\_ And a whole gen - er - a - tion\_ who were butch - ered and damned. \_\_\_\_\_

A. *p*  
 man, \_\_\_\_\_ And a whole gen - er - a - tion\_ who were butch - ered and damned. \_\_\_\_\_

T. *p*  
 man, \_\_\_\_\_ And a whole gen - er - a - tion\_ who were butch - ered and damned. \_\_\_\_\_

B. *p*  
 man, \_\_\_\_\_ And a whole gen - er - a - tion\_ who were butch - ered and damned. \_\_\_\_\_

Pno **Tempo 3** ♩ = 84 *p*

168

S. — Did they beat the drum slow - ly, did they sound the fyfe low - ly?\_ Did the

A. — Did they beat the drum slow - ly, did they sound the fyfe low - ly?\_ Did the

T. — Did they beat the drum slow - ly, did they sound the fyfe low - ly?\_ Did the

B. — Did they beat the drum slow - ly, did they sound the fyfe low - ly?\_ Did the

Pno

173

S. rif - les\_ fire o'er ye as they low - ered\_ you down?\_ Did the

A. rif - les\_ fire o'er ye as they low - ered\_ you down?\_ Did the

T. rif - les\_ fire o'er ye as they low - ered\_ you down?\_ Did the

B. rif - les\_ fire o'er ye as they low - ered\_ you down?\_ Did the

Pno

178

S. *pp* *p*  
oo \_\_\_\_\_ Did the pipes play The

A. *pp* *p*  
oo \_\_\_\_\_ Did the pipes play The

T. *p*  
8 bug - les\_\_ sing the Last Post in cho - rus? \_\_\_\_\_ Did the pipes play The

B. *pp* *p*  
oo \_\_\_\_\_ Did the pipes play The

183 *poco rit.* **Tempo 1** ♩ = 76

S. Flo'ers O'The For - est?

A. Flo'ers O'The For - est?

T. Flo'ers O'The For - est?

B. Flo'ers O'The For - est?

Pno *poco rit.* *mp*  
(with pedal)

188

Pno

192 *mp* *mf*

S. ah-----

A. ah-----

T. ah-----

B. ah-----

Pno *mp* *mf*

196

S.

A. *mf*

T. *mf*

B.

Pno

200

S.  
A.  
T.  
B.  
Pno

204

S.  
A.  
T.  
B.  
Pno

208 **Tempo 2** ♩ = 90

Solo *p* And I can't help but won - der, young

A.

Pno *p*

214

Solo Wil - lie\_\_ Mc - Bride, Do all those who lie here know why they

Pno

219

Solo died?\_\_ Did you real - ly\_\_ bel - ieve\_\_ them when they told you the cause?

Pno

223

Solo Did you real - ly\_\_ bel - ieve\_\_ that this war would end wars?

Pno

228

S. *p* Well the suf - fer - ing, the sor - row, the glo - ry, — the shame, The

A. *p* Well the suf - fer - ing, the sor - row, the glo - ry, — the shame, The

Pno

233

S. *p* kil - ling, the dy - ing, — it was all done in vain. For Wil - lie — Mc - Bride

A. *p* kil - ling, the dy - ing, — it was all done in vain. For Wil - lie — Mc - Bride

T. *p* For Wil - lie — Mc - Bride

B. *p* For Wil - lie — Mc - Bride

Pno

Tempo 3 ♩ = 84

238

S. — it all hap - pened a - gain\_ and a - gain and a - gain and a -

A. — it all hap - pened a - gain\_ and a - gain and a - gain and a -

T. — it all hap - pened a - gain\_ and a - gain and a - gain and a -

B. — it all hap - pened a - gain\_ and a - gain and a - gain and a -

Tempo 3 ♩ = 84

Pno

243

S. gain and a - gain. Did they beat the drum *pp*

A. gain and a - gain and a - gain and a - gain. *div.* Did they beat the drum *pp*

T. gain and a - gain and a - gain and a - gain. Did they beat the drum *pp*

B. gain and a - gain and a - gain and a - gain. Did they beat the drum *pp*

Pno

249

S. slow - ly, did they sound the fyfe low - ly?\_ Did the rif - les\_ fire o'er ye as they

A. slow - ly, did they sound the fyfe low - ly?\_ Did the rif - les\_ fire o'er ye as they

T. slow - ly, did they sound the fyfe low - ly?\_ Did the rif - les\_ fire o'er ye as they

B. slow - ly, did they sound the fyfe low - ly?\_ Did the rif - les\_ fire o'er ye as they

Pno

254

S. low - ered. you down?\_ oo

A. low - ered. you down?\_ oo

T. low - ered. you down?\_ Did the bug - les\_ sing the Last Post in cho - rus?\_

B. low - ered. you down?\_ oo

Pno

piano tacet

260

S. Did the pipes play The Flo'ers O' The For - est?

A. Did the pipes play The Flo'ers O' The For - est?

T. Did the pipes play The Flo'ers O' The For - est?

B. Did the pipes play The Flo'ers O' The For - est?

265

S. Did the bug - les sing the Last Post in cho - rus? *rit.*

A. Did the bug - les sing the Last Post in cho - rus?

T. Did the bug - les sing the Last Post in cho - rus?

B. Did the bug - les sing the Last Post in cho - rus?

269

**Slower**  
***pp***

Solo Did the pipes play The Flo'ers O' The For - est?

S.

A.

T.

B.