

# **Skye Boat Song**

**Traditional Scottish song  
arranged by Ken Johnston**

**for SSA (or SAA) voices and piano**

Composed 2002

Duration of piece: 5'

Three other versions of this song are available, arranged by Ken Johnston:

- 1) SATB voices and piano
- 2) SAB voices and piano
- 3) Unison voices with piano and flute

# Skye Boat Song

for SSA (or SAA\*) voices and piano

Traditional Scottish song  
arranged by Ken Johnston

Calmly ♩ = 108

Piano *p* unaccented

6

12 (2nd sops) *p*  
oo oo

18 (1st sops) *p*  
Speed bon-nie boat like a bird on the wing,

*p*

\* The second soprano part can be sung by altos.

Duration: 5'

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23

S 1

on - ward, the sail - ors cry. Car - ry the

(sim.)

28

S 1

lad that's born to be King o - ver the sea to Skye.

Ped.

34

S 1

*subito f*

Loud the winds howl, loud the waves roar,

S 2

*f*

*f*

A

Loud the winds howl, loud the waves roar,

*f*

Ped. Ped. (sim.)

Skye Boat Song: SSA (or SAA) and piano - arr. Ken Johnston

4 39

S 1 thun - der - claps rend the air. Baf - fled our

S 2 thun - der - claps rend the air. Baf - fled our

A thun - der - claps rend the air. Baf - fled our

44

S 1 foes stand by the shore, fol - low they will not

S 2 foes stand by the shore, ah

A foes stand by the shore, ah

*dim.*

*mp*

*dim.*

*dim.*

49

S 1 dare.

S 2 ah

A ah

*mp*

*dim.*

*dim.*

55

*mp*

S 1 Speed bon - nie boat like a bird on the wing, on - ward, the

S 2

A *p*

60

S 1 sail - ors cry. Car - ry the lad that's born to be

S 2 ah

A ah

66

S 1 King o - ver the sea to Skye. Though the waves

S 2 *mf*

A *mf* Though the waves

*mf*

72

S 1  
S 2  
A

leap, soft shall ye sleep, o - cean's a roy - al

leap, soft shall ye sleep, o - cean's a roy - al

77

S 1  
S 2  
A

bed. Rocked in the deep, Flo - ra will

bed. Rocked in the deep, Flo - ra will

82

S 1  
S 2  
A

keep watch by your wea - ry head.

keep watch by your wea - ry head.

87

S 1 *f* Speed bon-nie boat like a bird on the wing, on - ward, the

S 2 *f* Speed bon-nie boat like a bird on the wing, on - ward, the

A *f* Speed bon-nie boat like a bird on the wing, on - ward, the

*Ped.* (sim.)

92

S 1 sail - ors cry. Car - ry the lad that's

S 2 sail - ors cry. Car - ry the lad that's

A sail - ors cry. Car - ry the lad that's

97

S 1 born to be King o - ver the sea to Skye.

S 2 born to be King o - ver the sea to Skye.

A born to be King o - ver the sea to Skye.

102

S 1 *mp* Ma - ny's the lad fought on that

S 2 *mp*

A *mp* Ma - ny's the lad fought on that day,

*mp*

107

S 1 day, well the clay - more could wield.

S 2

A well the clay - more could wield. When the night

112

S 1 *dim.* *poco rit.* *p* *A tempo* When the night came, si - lent - ly dead oo

S 2 *dim.* *p* When the night came, si - lent - ly dead on Cul - lo-den's field.

A *dim.* *p* came, si - lent - ly lay dead on Cul - lo-den's field.

*poco rit.* *A tempo*

*dim.* *p*

118

S1  
S2  
A

oo

123

S1  
S2  
A

*mp*  
ah

*mp*  
Speed bon-nie boat like a bird on the wing, on-ward, the

*p*  
ah

*mp*  
Ped. Ped.

128

S1  
S2  
A

*cresc.*  
ah

*cresc.*  
sail-ors cry. Car-ry the lad that's born to be

*cresc.*  
ah

*cresc.*

134

S 1

S 2

A

King o - ver the sea to Skye.

(no breath) *f*

Burned are our

140

S 1

S 2

A

Burned are our homes, ex - ile and death scat - ter the

homes, ex - ile and death scat - ter the loy - al

145

S 1

S 2

A

loy - al men. Yet ere the sword cool in the

men. Yet ere the sword cool in the sheath,

*poco rit.*  
*dim.*

*dim.*

*dim.*

*poco rit.*  
*dim.*

151 *mp* **A tempo**

S 1 sheath, ah ah

S 2 sheath, ah

A Char - lie will come a - gain. ah

157 *mp* *p* *p*

S 1 Speed bon - nie

S 2 oo

A oo

(sim.)

162

S 1 boat like a bird on the wing, on - ward, the sail - ors cry.

S 2 oo

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12

168

S 1 Car - ry the lad that's born to be King o - ver the

S 2 oo

A oo

174

S 1 sea to Skye. *p* O - ver the sea to

S 2 mm

A mm

179

S 1 Skye. *rit.*

S 2 *dim.* mm

A *dim.*

*rit.* *dim.* Ped.