

Three Dickinson Songs

Words: Emily Dickinson

Music: Craig Bakalian

Vocal Quartet: Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass

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I think to Live

I think to Live– may be a Bliss
 To those who dare to try–
 Beyond my limit to conceive–
 My lip– to testify–

I think the Heart I former wore
 Could widen– till to me
 The Other, like the little Bank
 Appear– unto the Sea–

I think the Days– could every one
 In Ordination stand–
 And Majesty– be easier–
 Than an inferior kind–

No numb alarm– lest Difference come–
 No Goblin– on the Bloom–
 No start in Apprehension's Ear,
 No Bankruptcy– No Doom–

But Certainties of Sun–
 Midsummer– in the Mind–
 A steadfast South– upon the Soul–
 Her Polar time– behind–

The Vision– pondering long–
 So plausible becomes
 That I esteem the fiction– real–
 The Real– fictitious seems–

How bountiful the Dream–
 What Plenty– it would be–
 Had all my Life but been Mistake
 Just rectified– in Thee

Emily Dickinson, circa 1862

I think to Live

Emily Dickinson

Craig Bakalian

Moderately Fast ($\text{♩} = 86$)

p

Soprano
I think to Live may be a Bliss To those who dare to try

p

Alto
I think to Live may be a Bliss To those who dare to try

p

Tenor
I think to Live may be a Bliss To those who dare to try

p

Bass
I think to Live may be a Bliss To those who dare to try

8

f *p*

Beyond my li-mit to concieve My lip to test-i - fy I think the heart

f *p*

Beyond my li-mit to concieve My lip to test-i - fy I think the heart

f *p*

Beyond my li-mit to concieve My lip to test-i - fy I think the heart

f *p*

Beyond my li-mit to concieve My lip to test-i - fy I think the heart

18

I former wore could widen to me The Other like the lit-tle Bank Ap-pear

I former wore could widen to me The Other like the lit-tle Bank Ap-pear

I former wore could widen to me The Other like the lit-tle Bank Ap-pear

I former wore could widen to me The Other like the lit-tle Bank Ap-pear

f

27

un - to the Sea I think the Days could eve - ry one In Or - di - na - tion

un - to the Sea I think the Days could eve - ry one In Or - di - nation

un - to the Sea I think the Days could eve - ry one In Or - di - nation

un - to the Sea I think the Days could eve - ry one In Or - di - nation

p *cresc.*

37

stand And Ma - jes - ty be eas - i - er Than an in - fer - i - or kind No

stand And Ma - jes - ty be eas - i - er Than an in - fer - i - or kind No

stand And Ma - jes - ty be eas - i - er Than an in - fer - i - or kind No

stand And Ma - jes - ty be eas - i - er Than an in - fer - i - or kind

46

numb a - larm No Gob - lin No start in

numb a - larm No Gob - lin No start in

numb a - larm No Gob - lin No start in

lest Difference come on the Bloom in Ap - pre

56

No Bank - rupt - cy But Certan-ties of

No Bank - rupt - cy But Certan-ties of

No Bank - rupt - cy But Certan-ties of

hen-sion's Ear no Doom no Doom no Doom no Doom But Certan-ties of

65

Sun Midsummer in the mind A steadfast South upon the Soul Her Polar

Sun Midsummer in the mind A steadfast South upon the Soul Her Polar

Sun Midsummer in the mind A steadfast South upon the Soul Her Polar

Sun Midsummer in the mind A steadfast South upon the Soul Her Polar

74

mf *f*

time be-hind The Vision ponder-ing long So plausi-ble be-comes That I e

mf *f*

time be-hind The Vision ponder-ing long So plausi-ble becomes That I e

mf *f*

time be-hind The Vision ponder-ing long So plausi-ble becomes That I e

mf *f*

time be-hind The Vision ponder-ing long So plausi-ble becomes That I e

83

f *f*

--steem the fiction the Real How Boun-ti-ful the Dream it

f *f*

--steem the fic-tion Real How Boun-ti-ful the Dream it

ff *f*

--steem the fiction the Real fic-ti-tious seem How Boun-ti-ful the Dream it

f *f*

--steem the fic-tion Real How Boun-ti-ful the Dream it

90

would be had All Mis - take in Thee in Thee in *p*

would had All Mis - take in Thee in Thee in *p*

would be had All my life but been Mistake just rec - ti - fied in Thee in Thee in *ff* *f* *p*

would had all Mis - take in Thee in Thee in *p*

99

Thee in Thee

Thee in Thee

Thee in Thee

Thee in Thee

They shut me up in Prose

They shut me up in Prose—
As when a little Girl
They put me in the Closet—
Because they like me “still”—

Still! Could themselves have peeped—
And seen my Brain— go round—
They might as well have lodged a Bird
For Treason— in the Pound—

Himself has but to will
And easy as a Star
Abolish his Captivity—
And laugh— No more have I—

Emily Dickinson, circa 1862

They shut me up in prose

Emily Dickinson

Craig Bakalian

Moderate (♩ = 76)

f

Soprano
They shut me up in prose As

mf

Alto
shut me up prose

mf

Tenor
They shut me up in prose

mf

Bass
They shut me up me up in prose

6

f

when a lit - tle lit - tle girl The put *mf*

when a lit - tle girl They

As when As when a lit - tle lit - tle girl

mf

As when As when a lit - tle girl They

12

me in the clo - set be *sp*

put me in the clo-set be *sp*

mf They put me in me in *mp* be - cause they

put me in me in me in *mp* be - cause they

17

still *ff* Still! Still! *p* could themself have peeped

still *ff* Still! Still! Still! *p* could themself have peeped

ff like me still Still! could themself have peeped

ff like me still Still! could themself have

23

and seen my Brain go round They might as
 and seen my Brain go round They might as
 and seen my Brain go round They might as
 peeped and seen my Brain go round They might as

f *p* *p* *p*

28

well have lodged a Bird for treason in the Pound
 well have lodged a Bird as well have lodged a Bird in the Pound
 well have lodged a Bird for treason in the Pound
 well have lodged a Bird in the Pound

ff *p* *mp* *ff* *p* *f* *sp* *ff* *p* *mp* *ff* *p*

33 *mf*

no more have I no more have I no more have I no more have I no more have I no more have I

no more have I no more have I no more have I no more have I no more have I no more have I

f Him - self has but to

f Him - self has but to

36

no more have I no more have I no more have I no more have I no more have I no more have I

no more have I no more have I no more have I no more have I no more have I no more have I

f will and eas - y as a Star

f will and eas - y as a Star

39

no more have I no more have I no more have I no more have I no more have I

no more have I no more have I no more have I no more have I no more have I

A - bolish his cap - ti - vi - ty And laugh And

A - bolish his cap - ti - vi - ty And laugh And

42

no more have I

no more I

laugh

laugh

Wild Nights– Wild Nights!

Wild Nights– Wild Nights!
Were I with thee
Wild Nights should be
Our luxury

Futile– the Winds–
To a Heart in port–
Done with a Compass–
Done with a Chart–

Rowing in Eden–
Ah, the Sea!
Might I but moor– Tonight–
In Thee!

Emily Dickinson, circa 1861

Wild Nights– Wild Nights!

Emily Dickinson

Craig Bakalian

Fast (♩ = 96)
f

Soprano
Wild Nights Wild Nights Wild Nights Wild Nights

Alto
Wild Nights Wild Nights Wild Nights Wild Nights

Tenor
Wild Nights Wild Nights Wild Nights Wild Nights

Bass
Wild Nights Wild Nights Wild Nights Wild Nights

5

Were I with thee Wild Nights Wild Nights Wild Nights should be our

Were I with thee Wild Nights Wild Nights Wild Nights should be

Were I with thee Wild Nights Wild Nights Wild Nights should be

Were I with thee Wild Nights Wild Nights Wild Nights should be

10



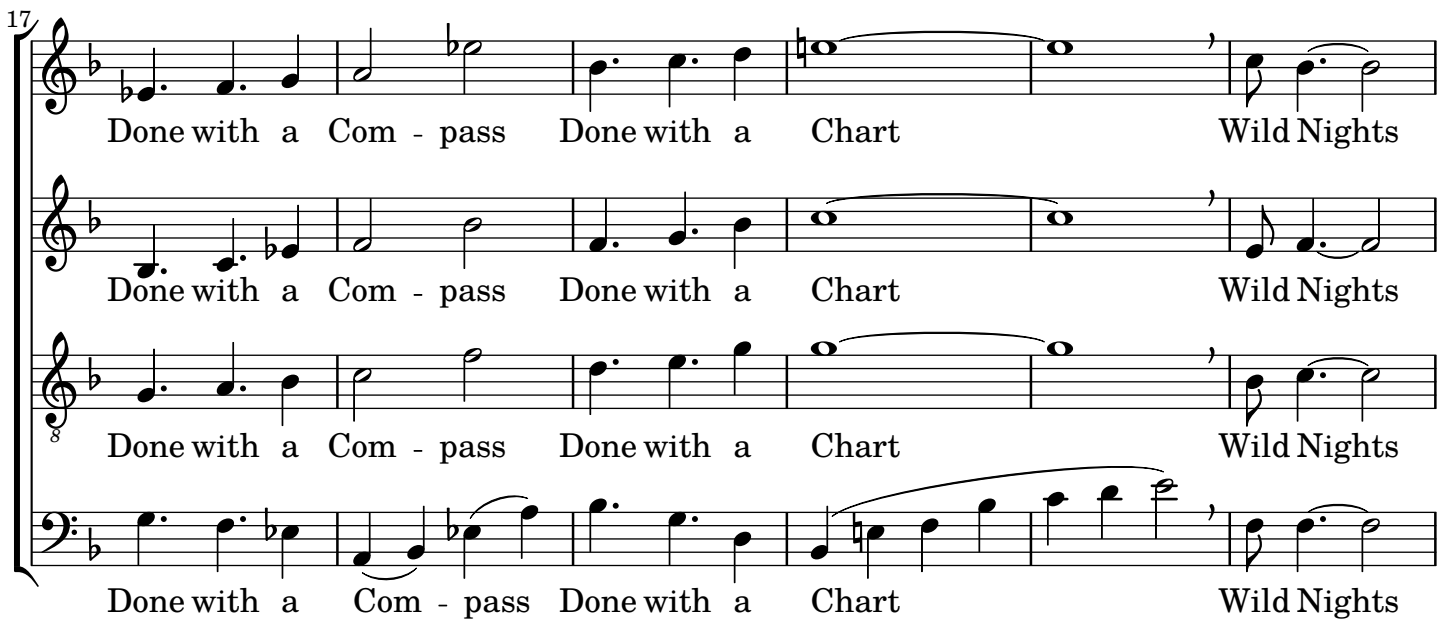
lux-ur - y Fu-tile the Wind To a Heart in port

our lux-ur - y Fu-tile the Wind To a Heart in port

our lux-ur - y Fu-tile the Wind To a Heart in port

our lux-ur - y Fu-tile the Wind To a Heart in port

17



Done with a Com - pass Done with a Chart Wild Nights

Done with a Com - pass Done with a Chart Wild Nights

Done with a Com - pass Done with a Chart Wild Nights

Done with a Com - pass Done with a Chart Wild Nights

23

Wild Nights Wild Nights Wild Nights Were I with thee

Wild Nights Wild Nights Wild Nights Were I with thee

Wild Nights Wild Nights Wild Nights Were I with thee

Wild Nights Wild Nights Wild Nights Were I with thee

28

Wild Nights Wild Nights Wild Nights should be our luxur-

Wild Nights Wild Nights Wild Nights should be our luxur-

Wild Nights Wild Nights Wild Nights should be our luxur-

Wild Nights Wild Nights Wild Nights should be our luxur-

33

y E - den Ah, the Sea! Might I but moor To - night In

y E - den Ah, the Sea! Might I moor To - night In

y Rowing in E - den Rowing in E - den Rowing in E - den

y Rowing in E - den Rowing in E - den Rowing in E - den

39

Thee! To - night In Thee!

Thee! To - night In Thee!

in Thee! Tonight Tonight in Thee!

Tonight Tonight in Thee!