

Songs of Love and Protest

The political is personal. While *Songs of Love and Protest* may suggest a mixed assortment—love songs and protest songs—it implies a synthesis: the lover makes “protestations” of faithfulness, or rebels against infidelity, inconstancy, and death; while in the protest songs, beneath irony and anger, lies the sorrow of a disappointed patriot.

Though often pointedly relevant, the texts are all traditional, culled word-for-word from centuries-old sources.

The songs may be performed by full chorus or a small group. Solo indications (in “Jack Hall” and “The Young Man”) apply if a larger group is used; in “Jack Hall” additional phrases may be sung by solo choir at the director’s discretion.

Long Night

2

One of the oldest English lyrics with surviving music. Ignorant of this fact and of the music, I wrote an entirely new setting in a distorted pseudo-Mediaeval style.

Floating Stanzas (The True Lover’s Farewell I)

4

“Floating stanzas” are generic lines—not tied to a specific storyline—that “float” from song to song. In the United States, these two verses have “spun off” to become a familiar stand-alone text.

Jack Hall

8

This song survives in many versions, often as “Sam Hall.” I imagine the proud defiance of a man unjustly convicted of murder (“I killed a man, they *said...*”) though the historical Jack Hall was executed in 1701 for burglary. The old-fashioned curse “damn your eyes” here provides an interesting twist on the moral concept of bearing witness.

The setting traverses many styles, from modernist tone-clusters to Renaissance polyphony, but the only actual musical quotation—of a well-known doo-wop tune—is at the very end.

Floating Stanzas (The True Lover’s Farewell II)

17

These two verses are often identified as part of “Lord Randall” because they are found there in Child no. 73, but are more aptly classified as floating. This song also “floats” within the set, a moment of calm between the angry songs before and after.

The Young Man Who Travelled Up and Down

21

This setting is full of musical quotations, from the “Sailor’s Hornpipe” and U.S. Marine Hymn to Handel and Rossini. However, the familiar tunes are distorted to fit the prevailing octatonic scale, lending them an eerie and fatalistic edge.

As with all the songs in the set, the venerable text is unaltered from the original source. The dedicatee is author of U.S. HR 2459, calling for the creation of a cabinet-level Department of Peace.

1. Long Night

Mirie it is while sumer ilast
with fugheles song.
Oc nu necheth windes blast
and weder strong.
Ei, ei! What this night is long
and ich with well michel wrong
soregh and murne and fast.

mir̄' It Is wil' sūmE' ilQst
wId fugEl's s̄cng
çk nu neItSEP wIndEs blQst
Qnd wEd' strçng
eI eI w̄t DIs nICt iz lçng
Qnd iC wId wEl mitSEL rçng
sç'rEx Qnd mūrn' Qnd fQst

It is merry while summer lasts,
with the song of birds.
But now the wind's blast approaches,
and strong weather.
Ay, ay! How long this night is,
and I, most unjustly,
sorrow and mourn and fast.

2. Floating Stanzas

(The True Lover's Farewell I)

O fare thee well my own true love,
O fare thee well a while.
I'm going away, but I'm coming back
If I go ten thousand mile.

Ten thousand mile, my own true love,
Ten thousand mile or more,
The sea may freeze, and earth will burn,
If I never more return.

3. Jack Hall

Oh my name it is Jack Hall, Jack Hall
Oh my name it is Jack Hall.
And I killed a man they said
And I smashed his bloody head
And I left him going dead
Damn your eyes!

And this shall be my knell, my knell
And this shall be my knell:
God damn you all to hell
And I hope you sizzle well
Damn your eyes!

4. Floating Stanzas

(The True Lover's Farewell II)

Who will shoe your little feet,
Who will glove your little white hand
And who will kiss your red rosy cheeks
When I am in some foreign land?

Papa will shoe my little feet,
Mama will glove my little white hand,
Nobody will kiss my red rosy cheeks
When you are in some foreign land.

5. The Young Man Who Travelled Up and Down

When I was a little boy I travelled up and down
And I chanced to stop in a seaport town.
The drums they beat and the cannon did roar
And the people there told me the wars weren't o'er.

In come the soldier, so very neat and fine,
"Come landlady, draw me a pint of good wine,
And we'll charge it to the borrow along with the old score,
And I'll pay you for your liquors, when the wars are o'er."

In come the barber, a-wishing little harm
With a great long beard as long as your arm.
Saying, "If I don't get a kiss from the girl I adore,
I'll be hanged if I shave till the wars are o'er."

In come the blacksmith, greatest trade of all,
Sold his bed and blankets for some iron and coal.
Now he has to sleep upon the cold frozen floor,
He may lay there and freeze till the wars are o'er.

Along come the tailor, and loud did he say,
"The way I make my living is by four and six a day,
Mending up old clothes all ragged and torn,
And they never will get new ones till the wars are o'er."

Along come the teacher, with his cunning looks,
He said he made his living by the teaching of his books.
He has got a list of scholars and he can't get no more,
And he can't get the school till the wars are o'er."

In come the devil with a Yankee on his back,
He picked up the soldier to balance his pack.
The Yankee rode behind and the soldier rode before,
And away they went a-jogging till the wars are o'er.

Long Night

Lyric anonymous, 13th C.

Ritmico

$\text{♩} = 60$

Soprano: *rit.* - - - - *mp* with fu-ghel-es song.

Alto: *mf* with fu-ghel-es song.

Tenor: *mf* with fu-ghel-es song.

Bass: *poco f* Mi - rie it is whi - le su-mer i - last, *mf* with fu-ghel-es song.

(for Middle English pronunciation and modern translation see p. 1)

meno mosso

$\text{♩} = 72$

5 *rit.* - - - - *mf* and wed - er strong.

A Tempo II
($\text{♩} = 48$)

blast, and wed - er strong. *f* Ei!

mp Oc nu nech-eth wind - es blast, and wed - er strong. *f* Ei!

mf blast, wed - er strong.

rit. - - - - - - - - - - **ancora meno mosso**

9

mf

this nicht is long!

p

well mi -

Ei! what this nicht is long!

p

and

Ei! is long!

p

and ich with

p

and ich with well mi - chel

rit. - - - - **ancora meno** **rit.** - - - - - -
♪ = 112

13

chel wrong, sor - - - egh and fast.

ich, with well mi-chel wrong, sor - - - egh and fast.

well mi-chel wrong, sor - - egh, mur-ne and fast.

wrong, sor - egh and mur-ne and fast.

attacca

...floating stanzas (The True Lover's Farewell I)

Text traditional, before 1800

Smoothly and flexibly

$\text{♪} = 92$

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

*) Dynamics for the echo choir indicate perceived levels. If the echo choir is much smaller than the main group, the echo singers should adjust their dynamics upward.

Held back

♩ = 86

rit.

♩ = 82

poco rit.

5

10

S A I T B S A II T B

I'm go-ing a-way com-ing back
fare-well, I'm go-ing a-way com-ing back
well go-ing com-ing back
fare-well, I'm go-ing a-way com-ing back

while. I'm go-ing a-way, but I'm com-ing back, If I go ten thou-sand
while. I'm go-ing a-way, but I'm com-ing back, If I go ten thou-sand
while. I'm go-ing a-way, but I'm com-ing back, If I go ten thou-sand
while. I'm go-ing a-way, but I'm com-ing back, If I go ten thou-sand

Slightly Faster than Tempo I

♩ = 96

*p floating***moving forward***mp*

20

S A I T B S A II T B

my own true love ten thou-sand miles
miles my
my own true love
mile.
mile. Ten thou-sand miles, my own true love, ten thou-sand mile or
mile. Ten thou-sand miles, my own true love, ten thou-sand mile or

$\text{♪} = 92$ ardently

29

S — or more, will burn my love, If I ne - ver
A may freeze, earth will burn my love If I
I. may freeze, earth will burn my love If I
T may freeze, and earth will burn
B may freeze, and earth
S freeze, and earth will burn my love,
A freeze, and earth will burn my love,
II. more, freeze, and earth will burn
T The sea may freeze, and earth will burn
B more, freeze, and earth will burn

poco rit.

slower

=

molto rit. accel. a Tempo I $\text{♪} = 92$

40

S more re - turn. fare well
A ne - ver more re - turn. fare well
I. ne - ver more re - turn. fare well
T fare well
B fare well
S O fare thee well, my own true love, O fare thee well a
A O fare thee well, my own true love, O fare thee well a
II. O fare thee well, my own true love, O fare thee well a
T O fare thee well, my own true love, O fare thee well a
B O fare thee well, my own true love, O fare thee well a

Held back
♩ = 84

rit.

52

S A I. T B S A II. T B

I'm going away com - ing
fare well, I'm going away com - ing back
well going com - ing back
fare well I'm going away com - ing back

while. I'm going away, but I'm com - ing back,
while. I'm going away, but I'm com - ing back,
while. I'm going away, but I'm com - ing back,

while. I'm going away, but I'm com - ing back,

60 ♩ = 84

S A I. T B S A II. T B

back If I go ten thou - sand
If I go ten thou - sand (mi...) the D "ghosted" as if the line continued down

If I go ten thou - sand mile.
If I go ten thou - sand mile.
If I go ten thou - sand mile.

Jack Hall

to the 46th Governor of Texas, who oversaw 153 executions—more than any other elected official in the history of the United States

Text traditional, before 1719

Lively ♩ = 88

Soprano I

Soprano II

Alto I

Alto II

Tenor I

Tenor II

Baritone

Bass

O my name it is Jack Hall ah
Jack Hall O my name it is
Jack Hall ah
O my name it is Jack Hall
Jack Hall O my name it is Jack Hall
O my name it is Jack Hall O my name it is Jack Hall
O my name it is Jack Hall O my name it is Jack Hall
Jack Hall O my name it is
O my name it is Jack Hall

The stage directions (m. 96, m. 103) are only suggestions. Similar theatrics are appropriate throughout.

7

mf

sfp *sffz* 9

S I Jack they said
S II Jack Hall they said
A I Ha ll ll/zh *p* (*senza dim.*) they said
(close jaw) (grimace while continuing to sing on "ll" sound)

A II Jack

T I *p* And I killed a man.

T II

Bar is Jack Hall And I killed a man

Bass Ha ll ll/zh *p* (*senza dim.*) *mp* And I killed a man
(close jaw) (grimace while continuing to sing on "l" sound)

16

po - co ac - cel - le - ran - do a **Tempo I** *f* *cheerfully*

S I blood - y head

S II and I smashed his *mp legato* blood - y head

A I And I smashed *mp legato* his And I left

A II And I smashed his *mp legato* his And I left

T I And I smashed his *mp legato* *marcato* *mf* And I smashed his blood - y

T II And I smashed his *mp legato* *marcato* *mf* And I smashed his

Bar And I smashed his *mp legato*

Bass And I smashed his *mp legato*

A tempo ♩ = 96

11

39 (measure-long port. to high range) **freely**

S I (omit final "d") *senza cresc.*

S II (omit final "d") *senza cresc.*

A I (omit final "d") *senza cresc.*

A II (omit final "d") *senza cresc.*

T I 8 (omit final "d")

T II 8 (omit final "d")

Bar (omit final "d")

Bass (n) (slow diphthong) damn yer aa → ee - z!

Yum bum ba da dum dum dee

whistle* ***ff*** (actual octave) ***ff***

sfzmp

Yum bum ba da dum dum dee

(shout) (harsh guttural whisper)

SOLO ***p*** ***sfz*** (slow dipthong) ***sfzmp***

^{*)} Vocal parts may be reassigned to free up the best whistlers; the lower B♭ should be taken only if the higher one is weak.

72

S I all to hell, God damn, God damn

S II - God damn, God

A I all to hell, God damn, God damn

A II all to hell, God damn, God

T II all to hell,

78

S I you all to hell,

S II damn you all to hell,

A I you all to hell,

A II damn you all to

T I God damn, God damn you all to

T II God damn you all

Bar God damn you, God damn you all to

Bass God damn you to

mf sub p

= 96

colla parte

84

S I I hope _____

A I I hope you siz - zle well, *f pesante* *p*

A II hell, I hope you siz - zle well, *f pesante* *p*

T I hell, I hope you siz - zle well, *f pesante* *p*

T II I hope you siz - zle well, *f pesante* *p*

Bar *ad lib quasi parlando*
(like a shout from a crowd)

Bass And I hope _____ I hope you siz - zle well.

=

91 in tempo colla parte = 112

S I *poco f* Oh yeah! I hope you

S II Oh yeah! I hope you

A I God damn you all to hell, *f* *p*

A II God damn you all to hell, *f* *p* Oh yeah! I hope you

T I God damn you all to hell, *f* *p*

T II God damn you all to hell, *f* *p*

Bar *ad lib quasi parlando*

Bass God damn you all to hell,

feel free to bump and grind

96 (sop. I & II unison)

S I & II: siz - zle well, God damn you all to hell

A I: **SOLO** *chesty — nel modo BettyEveretto* **f** (1/4-tone sharp) God damn you all to hell, I hope

A II: siz - zle well, God damn you all to hell

T I & II: **mp** doot doot doot doot doot

Bar: **p** da doom boom doom da doom boom doom da doom boom

Bass: **p** da doom boom - pa doom da doom boom - pa

99

S I & II: — chop, drop, dan - gle,

A I: — you siz - zle well, and this shall be my knell, God damn you —

A II: **mp** rhythmic chop, drop, dan - gle,

T I & II: doot doot da doom boom

Bar: doom da doom boom doom da doom boom

Bass: doom da doom boom - pa doom da doom boom - pa

(ten. I & II unison)

...floating stanzas (The True Lover's Farewell II)

Text traditional, before 1800

$\text{J} = 88$ ($\text{J} = \text{J}$ throughout)
molto intenso e sempre legatissimo

Soprano

Alto 1

Alto 2

Tenor

Bass

Who will shoe your lit - tle feet, and
Who will shoe your lit - tle, lit - tle feet, and
Who will shoe your lit - tle feet, and
Who will shoe your lit - tle, lit - tle feet, and
Who will shoe your lit - tle feet, and

7

movendo -

who will glove your lit - tle white hand, and who will
who will glove your lit - tle, lit - tle white hand, and who will
who will glove your lit - tle, lit - tle hand, and who will
who will glove your lit - tle, lit - tle white hand, and who will
who will glove your lit - tle white hand, and who will

A tempo

poco f

14

kiss your red rosy cheek when I am in some

p

kiss your ros - y, ros - y cheek when I am in some

poco f

kiss your ros - y cheek, when I am in some

poco f

8 kiss your red rosy, ros - y cheek, when I am in some

poco f

kiss your ros - y cheek when I am in some

ritard - - - - **Tempo I**

pp

19

for - eign land? Pa - pa will shoe my

pp

for - eign land? Pa - pa will shoe my

pp

for - eign land? Pa - pa will shoe my

pp

8 for - eign land? Pa - pa will shoe my

pp

for - eign land? Pa - pa will shoe my

24

lit - tle feet, Ma - ma will glove my
lit - tle, lit - tle feet, Ma - ma will glove my
lit - tle, lit - tle feet, Ma - ma will glove my
lit - tle, lit - tle feet, Ma - ma will glove my
lit - tle feet, Ma - ma will glove my

30

lit - tle white hand, no - bo - dy will kiss my
lit - tle, lit - tle white hand, no - bo - dy will kiss my
lit - tle lit - tle hand, no - bo - dy will kiss my
lit - tle lit - tle white hand, no - bo - dy will kiss my
lit - tle white hand, no - bo - dy will kiss my

poco meno mosso

36

red ros - y cheek when you are in some
ros - y, ros - y cheek when you are in some
ros - y cheek when you are in some
red ros - y, ros - y cheek when you are in some
ros - y cheek when you are in some

ritard. - - - - - molto rit. - - - - -

40

for - eign, for - eign land.
for - eign, for - eign, for - eign land.
for - eign, for - eign, for-eign land.
for - eign, for - eign land.
for - eign, for - eign land.

attacca

The Young Man Who Travelled Up and Down

*Dedicated to U.S. Representative Dennis Kucinich—
“Our children deserve a world without end. Not a war without end.”*

Text traditional, before 1915

3 **p** ma sempre marcato > > > > >

wars are o'er the wars are o'er the wars are wars are o'er the wars are o'er the wars are

f

When I was a lit - tle boy I trav - elled up and down

mp

8 wars are o'er when the wars are o'er when the

mp

wars are o'er when the

11

wars are o'er the wars are And the peo - ple there told me the
wars are o'er the wars are o'er the wars are

wars are o'er when the wars are o'er when the

13

wars weren't o'er.

wars are o'er the wars are o'er the wars are
wars are o'er when the wars are o'er when the

wars are o'er when the wars are o'er when the

wars are o'er the wars are o'er the wars are

15

wars are o'er when In come the sol - dier, so ver - y neat and

wars

wars are o'er the wars are o'er

wars o'er

18 *suggestively*

mp unison

wars are o'er the wars are o'er the wars are o'er

SOLO *f* "Sailor's Hornpipe"

"Come land - la - dy, draw me a pint of good"

21

wars are o'er the wars are o'er the wars are

tutti *mf*

wine," ah ah

BARITONE SOLO *with menacing swagger*

"And we'll charge it to the bor - row a - long with the old

BASS (section) *mf* ah ah

slower, freely
♩ = 140

optionally: Countertenor SOLO

p "Semper Fi"

"And I'll pay you for your li - quors, when the

wars are o'er the wars are o'er the wars are

ff contemptuously

SOLO "And I'll pay you for your li - quors, when the

fp

Tenori altri: pay

score,"

tutti (Baritones) **fp**

(Basses) pay

rit. molto - - - - A tempo
 $\text{♪} = 340$

27

wars are o'er..."

wars_____ are_____ o'er."

mf *mp* *f* *(unis.)*

Tenor et alii: wars are o'er when the wars are o'er when the

Solo *freely, molto rit.*

mf *tutti* *f*

wars_____ are_____ o'er when the wars are_____ o'er when the

33

bar - ber, the bar - ber, the) with a great long beard... as...

wars are o'er the wars are o'er the wars are... wars are o'er the wars are o'er the wars are...

wars are o'er when the wars are o'er when the...

wars are o'er when the...

35

long as your arm say - ing, "If

wars are o'er the wars are o'er the wars are wars are o'er the wars are o'er the wars are

wars are o'er when the wars are o'er when the wars are "If I

wars are o'er when the wars are o'er when the wars are o'er when the

38 *f*

I don't
wars are o'er when the wars —

SOLO *manic* “Il Barbiere di Siviglia”
“If _____ I don't get a kiss from the girl I a -dore,”

don't get a kiss,”

BARITONE SOLO “I'll be

wars are o'er when the wars —

41 *fp* *f*

hanged
hanged

SOLO wars _____ are _____

p *mp* *espress.*

hanged if I shave _____ 'till the wars _____ are _____
p *mp* *espress.*

altri (Baritones/Basses) shave _____ wars _____

28 A tempo ♩ = 340

45 rit. Slow ♩ = 56
Handel, Harpsichord Suite No. 5

wars are_ o'er when the — In come the black-smith,

wars are_ o'er when the wars are_ o'er when_ the — In come black-smith,

o'er."

tutti: wars are_ o'er when the wars are_ o'er when the wars In come black-smith,

o'er."

tutti: wars are_ o'er when the wars In come black-smith,

49 moving ($\text{♩} = 88$) - - - - - rit.

great - est trade of all, for some i - ron and coal,

trade of all, Sold his bed and blan - kets for some i - ron and coal,

the black - smith, oh

the black - smith, oh

52 Still slower $\text{♩} = 48$; misterioso $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$
pp *witchlike (nasal, senza espress.)*

Now he has to sleep up - on the cold fro - zen floor, he may lay there and

pp

mm ah mm ah mm

pp

mm ah mm ah mm

pp

mm ah mm ah mm

slightly slower than Tempo I ($\text{♪} = 294$; $\text{♩} = 150$; $\text{♩.} = 96$)

55

freeze till the wars are o'er. A-long come the

A-long come the tai-lor and loud did he say:

"The

but felt as: teach-er with his cun-ning looks

he said he made his liv-ing by the teach-ing of his

way I make my liv-ing is by four and six a day, mend-ing up old clothes all

62

and he can't get the

books, he has got a list of schol-ars and he can't get no more, and he can't get the

cresc.

rag-ged and torn, and they nev-er will get new ones

rit. molto Tempo I ($\text{♩} = 340$)

65

school till the wars are

school till the wars are, till the

till the wars are, till the wars are o'er when the wars are o'er when the

wars are o'er when the wars are o'er when the

till the wars are o'er.

69 **p** ma sempre marcato

wars are o'er the wars are o'er the wars are

wars are o'er the wars are o'er the wars are

in come the dev - il with a Yan - kee on his back,

wars are o'er when the wars are

wars are o'er when the

71

wars are o'er the He picked up the sol - dier to
— wars are o'er the wars are wars are o'er the wars are o'er the wars are
8 wars are o'er when *mp* wars are o'er when the
wars are o'er when *mp* wars are o'er when the

73

balance his pack. wars are o'er the wars are
wars are o'er the wars are o'er the wars are wars are o'er the wars when the
mp unison
wars are o'er when the wars are o'er when The
mp unison
wars are o'er when the wars are o'er when

75

wars are o'er the wars are o'er the wars are wars are o'er the wars are o'er the wars are
wars
8 Yan - kee rode_ be - hind and the sol - dier rode be - fore,
wars are o'er when the wars are o'er when the

77

wars are o'er the wars are— And a - way they went a - jog - ging

wars are o'er the wars are o'er the wars are

wars are o'er when the wars are o'er when the

79

till the wars are all

wars are o'er the wars are o'er the wars are

wars are o'er when the

wars are o'er when the

wars are o'er when the

wars are o'er the wars are o'er the wars are

81

ff

o'er, are o'er.

wars are o'er,

wars are o'er the wars are o'er when the

wars are o'er when the

wars are o'er when the

wars are o'er when the

84

f

wars are o'er when the wars are o'er when the wars are o'er when the
wars are o'er when the wars are o'er when the wars are o'er when the
wars are o'er when the wars are o'er when the wars are o'er

*) Altos sing cue notes only if tenors need support.

**) Ab only if there are not enough singers with Cb. Cb alone is preferable, even if some of the section are tacet.