

The Lighthouse

Commissioned by Dr. Phillip Stockton for the
Mississippi University for Women Chamber Singers

Text by
Katie Ballinger

Music by
Joe L. Alexander

Dr. Joe L. Alexander
4434 Plumtree Lane
Tuscaloosa, AL 35405

email: jlalexander3@muw.edu
jlacomposer.com

The Lighthouse

for
SATB choir

Performance Notes:

Accidentals only apply to the line or space on which they are written. Octaves are not assumed with accidentals.

Program Notes:

During the last week of the spring semester, 2018 I was sitting outside the “boss’ office” waiting for to visit. On the table was a copy of the *The Dilettanti*, MUW’S Magazine of Literature & Fine Art. One of the poem’s in the magazine was by one of the members of the Chamber Singers, Katie Ballinger. I really enjoyed the poem so I got in contact with Ms. Ballinger and Dr. Stockton and asked if they would be interested in working together to create a choir piece for the upcoming school year. The result was *The Lighthouse*. I composed the piece during the summer and was premiered during their fall choir tour. The piece is dedicated to the Mississippi University for Women’s Chamber Singers and it’s conductor, Phillip Stockton.

Katie Ballinger - *The Lighthouse*

There is a small, wooden, ship, in the sea.

In the vast, dark, rough, he’s tossed.

Here, safe on the shore, I will be,
Worrying, dreading that he’ll be lost.

He carries something very precious, to me.
A treasure, encased in a glass box.
He holds it, while fighting the stormy sea.

Clinging, praying, it will not be lost.

There were three before him, but they failed.
One lost the cargo, the others turned back.
Said the sea was too rough, too dark as they sailed.

But he—brave one—is staying on track.

When he returns there’ll be joy till kingdom come,
So I’ll be his lighthouse, to bring him back home.

Dr. Joe L. Alexander
4434 Plumtree Lane
Tuscaloosa, AL 35405

email: jlalexander3@muw.edu
jlacomposer.com

© 2018 by Joe L. Alexander
All Rights Reserved

The Lighthouse

For Dr. Phillip Stockton
and the Mississippi University
for Women Chamber Singers

Joe L. Alexander
text by Katie Ballinger

Andante ♩ = 80

Soprano *mf* Ah

Alto *mf* Ah

Tenor *mf* Ah Ah Ah

Bass *mf* Ah Ah Ah

7

Soprano Ah There is a small, wood-en ship, in the sea.

Alto Ah There is a small, wood-en ship, in the sea.

Tenor There is a small, wood-en ship, in the sea.

Bass Ah There is a small, wood-en ship, in the sea.

The Lighthouse

14 *mp*
 In the vast, dark, rough, he's tossed. Here, safe on the
mp
 In the vast, dark, rough, he's tossed. Here, safe on the
mp
 In the vast, dark, rough, he's tossed.
mp
 In the vast, dark, rough, he's tossed.

20
 shore, I will be, wor-ry-ing, dread-ing that he'll be lost. He car-ries some-thing
 shore, I will be, wor-ry-ing, dread-ing that he'll be lost. He car-ries some-thing ve-ry
 on the shore, I will be, wor-ry-ing, dread-ing that he'll be lost. He car-ries some-thing ve-ry
 on the shore, I will be, wor-ry-ing, dread-ing that he'll be lost. He car-ries some-thing

26 *a tempo*
 ve-ry pre-cious to me. treas-ure, en-cassed in a glass box. He holds it, while
 pre-cious to me. A treas-ure, en-cassed in a glass box. He holds it, while
 pre-cious, to me. treas-ure, en-cassed in a glass box. He holds it, while
 ve-ry pre-cious to me. en-cassed in a glass box. He holds it, while

The Lighthouse

32 *p* *♩ tempo*

fight-ing the stor-my sea, ___ Cling-ing, pray-ing, ___ it will not be lost. ___

fight-ing the stor-my sea, ___ Cling-ing, pray-ing, ___ be lost. *mf*

fight-ing the stor-my sea, ___ Cling-ing, pray-ing, ___ be lost. *p* There ___

fight - ing the storm-my sea, ___ Cling-ing, pray-ing, ___ lost. There ___

39 *mf* *mf* *p*

were ___ three be - fore him, but ___ they failed. One lost the

were ___ three be - fore him, but they failed. One lost the

be - fore be - fore him, but ___ they failed.

be - fore be - fore him, but they failed.

47 *mf*

car-go. ___ the oth-ers ___ turned back. Said the sea was ___ too rough, too

car-go. ___ the oth-ers ___ turned back. Said the sea was ___ too rough, ___

the car-go. ___ turned back. too rough, ___ too rough,

the car-go. ___ turned back. Said the sea was too rough ___

The Lighthouse

53 *a tempo*

dark as they sailed. But he brave one is stay-ing on track.

mf too dark as they sailed. But he brave one on track.

mf 8 too dark as they sailed. But he brave one on track.

mf too dark as they sailed. But he brave one on track.

58 *p* *rit.*

There will be joy till king-dom come, So I'll be his light-house, to

p When he re- turns joy till king-dom come, So I'll be his light-house, to

p 8 When he re- turns joy till king-dom come, So I'll be his light-house, to

p 3 there will be joy till king-dom come, So I'll be his light-house, to

64 *a tempo* *rit.*

bring him back home. Ah

bring him back home. Ah Ah Ah

8 bring him back home. Ah Ah

bring him back home. Ah Ah

The composer welcomes any questions concerning *The Lighthouse* and would greatly appreciate hearing about performances. Inquires and programs should be sent to:

Dr. Joe L. Alexander
4434 Plumtree Lane
Tuscaloosa, AL 35405

email: jlalexander3@muw.edu
jlacomposer.com