

The music is dedicated to my friend Admiral Lord Beresford.

*Edward Elgar.*

FOUR SONGS  
FROM  
“THE FRINGES OF THE FLEET”

THE POEMS BY  
RUDYARD KIPLING

THE MUSIC BY  
EDWARD ELGAR

1. THE LOWESTOFT BOAT
2. FATE’S DISCOURTESY...
3. SUBMARINES.....
4. THE SWEEPERS.....

Full Score

TRANSCRIBED BY  
JOHN MORRISON

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## The Lowestoft Boat.

In Lowestoft a boat was laid,  
Mark well what I do say !  
And she was built for the herring trade.  
But she has gone a-rovin', a-rovin', a-rovin',  
The Lord knows where !

They gave her Government coal to burn,  
And a Q. F. gun at bow and stern,  
And sent her out a-rovin', etc.

Her skipper was mate of a bucko ship  
Which always killed one man per trip,  
So she is used to rovin', etc.

Her mate was skipper of a chapel in Wales,  
And so he fights in topper and tails,  
Religi-ous tho' rovin', etc.

Her engineer is fifty-eight,  
So he's prepared to meet his fate,  
Which ain't unlikely rovin', etc.

Her leading stoker's seventeen,  
So he don't know what the Judgments mean,  
Unless he cops 'em rovin', etc.

Her cook was chef in the Lost Dogs' Home,  
Mark well what I do say !  
And I'm sorry for Fritz when they all come  
A-rovin', a-rovin', a-roarin' and a-rovin',  
Round the North Sea rovin'.  
The Lord knows where !

RUDYARD KIPLING.

# "The Fringes of the Fleet."

## 1.

### The Lowestoft Boat.

(A Chanty.)

Words by  
RUDYARD KIPLING.

Music by  
EDWARD ELGAR.

Transcribed by John Morrison, 2019.

**Allegro.**

Flutes 1 & 2

Oboes 1 & 2

Bb Clarinets 1 & 2

Bassoons 1 & 2

Horns 1 & 2 in F

Trumpets 1 & 2 in Bb

1 & 2

Trombones

3

Timpani

SD, BD, Cym

VOICE

Violin 1

Violin 2

Viola

Violoncello

Double Bass

The Lowestoft Boat

1

5

Piu Lento a Tempo

Fls

Obs

Cls

Bsns

Hns

Tpts

Trbns

Tmp

Perc

(SOLO.) *mf* *p piu lento* *mf a tempo*

I, In Low-es-toft a boat was laid, Mark well what I do say! And she was built for the

1

Piu Lento a Tempo

p

p

p

mf

p

mf

p

The Lowestoft Boat

2 Rit. a Tempo a Tempo

Fls  
Obs  
Cls  
Bsns  
Hns  
Tpts  
Trbs  
Tmp  
Perc

her-ring trade. But she has gone a-rov-in', a-rov-in', rov-in', The Lord knows where! —

*rit.* *a tempo* *dolce* (slyly) *cresc.* (CHORUS) *allargando*

2 Rit. a Tempo a Tempo

P  
B

The Lowestoft Boat

3

16

Rit.

Fls

Obs

Cls

Bsns

Hns

Tpts

Trbs

Tmp

Perc

*p*

*a 2*

*p*

*p*

*p*

*p*

*tr*

*p*

SD

*p* BD *pp*

(SOLO.) *mf*

2. They gave her Gov-ern-ment coal to burn, And a Q. F. gun at bow and stern, And

Rit.

*p*

*p*

*p*

*p*

*p*

*pizz.*

*f sf*



The Lowestoft Boat

5 4 VERSES Rit.

27

Fls

Obs

Cls

Bsns

Hns

Tpts

Trbs

Tmp

Perc

(SOLO.) rit.

3. Her skipper was mate of a bucko ship Which al - ways killed one man per trip, So  
 4. Her mate was skipper of a chapel in Wales, And so he fights in top-per and tails, Re -  
 5. Her en - gin - eer is fif - ty - eight, So he's pre - pared to meet his fate, Which  
 6. Her lead - ing stok - er's sev - en - teen, So he don't know what the Judg - ments mean, Un -

5 4 VERSES Rit.



The Lowestoft Boat

a Tempo

32

a Tempo

Fls

Obs

Cls

Bsns

Hns

Tpts

Trbs

Tmp

Perc

*a tempo* *p* *cresc.* (CHORUS.) *allargando*

he is used to rovin', a- rovin', rov - - in', The Lord knows where!  
 lig - i - ous tho' rovin', a- rovin', rov - - in', The Lord knows where!  
 ain't un- like - ly rovin', a- rovin', rov - - in', The Lord knows where!  
 less he cops 'em rovin', a- rovin', rov - - in', The Lord knows where!

*a Tempo* *div* *p* *cresc.* *colla parte* *f sf* *a Tempo*

The Lowestoft Boat

37 **6** **7**

Fls

Obs

Cls

Bsns

Hns

Tpts

Trbns

Tmp

Perc

optional repeat

(SOLO.) *f*

7. Her cook was chef in the Lost Dogs' Home, (BARKING & LAUGHTER) Mark well what I do say! And I'm

*f* *pp cresc.* *distinto* *f*

**6** **7**

*p* *p* *pizz.* *f* *pizz.* *f* *pizz.* *f*

The Lowestoft Boat

42 8

Fls *fsf* *ff* *ff*

Obs *f* *a 2.* *mf* *ff* *ff*

Cls *p* *p* *ff* *ff*

Bsns *f* *ff* *ff*

Hns *mf* *ff*

Tpts *f* *mf* *ff* *mf*

Trbns *f* *p* *mf* *ff* *mf*

Tmp *ff* *tr* *tr* *tr* *tr*

Perc *SD* *p* *f* *p*

(CHORUS.)

sor-ry for Fritz when they all come A-rov-in', a-rov-in', a-roari-in', rov-in a-rov-in a

*div.* 8

arco *fsf* *mf* *ff* *mf*

arco *fsf* *mf* *ff* *mf*

arco *fsf* *mf* *ff* *mf*

The Lowestoft Boat

9 **Largamente** **Allargando** **a Tempo**

Fls  
Obs  
Cls  
Bsns  
Hns  
Tpts  
Trbns  
Tmp  
Perc

(SOLO.) **f** (CHORUS.) **f** *allargando*

roar - - in', Round the North Sea\_ rov - in', The Lord knows where!

9 **Largamente** **Allargando** **a Tempo**

*colla parte*



## Fate's Discourtesy.

Be well assured that on our side  
Our challenged oceans fight,  
Though headlong wind and heaving tide  
Make us their sport to-night.  
Through force of weather, not of war,  
In jeopardy we steer.  
Then, welcome Fate's discourtesy  
Whereby it shall appear  
How in all time of our distress  
As in our triumph too,  
The game is more than the player of the game,  
And the ship is more than the crew !

Be well assured, though wave and wind  
Have mightier blows in store,  
That we who keep the watch assigned  
Must stand to it the more;  
And as our streaming bows dismiss  
Each billow's baulked career,  
Sing, welcome Fate's discourtesy  
Whereby it is made clear  
How in all time of our distress  
As in our triumph too,  
The game is more than the player of the game,  
And the ship is more than the crew !

Be well assured, though in our power  
Is nothing left to give  
But time and place to meet the hour  
And leave to strive to live,  
Till these dissolve our Order holds,  
Our Service binds us here.  
Then, welcome Fate's discourtesy  
Whereby it is made clear  
How in all time of our distress  
And our deliverance too,  
The game is more than the player of the game,  
And the ship is more than the crew !

RUDYARD KIPLING.



The Fringes of the Fleet - Fate's Discourtesy

9 3 VERSES

Fls  
Obs  
Cls  
Bsns  
Hns  
Tpts  
Trbs  
Tmp  
Perc

*p colla parte*  
*mf*  
*p*  
*pp*

1. Be well as-sured that on our side Our chal-lenged o - ceans fight, Though head-long wind and heap-ing tide Make
2. Be well as-sured, though wave and wind Have might-ier blows in store, That we who keep the watch as-signed Must
3. Be well as-sured, though in our pow'r Is no-thing left to give But time and place to meet the hour, And

3 VERSES

*f colla parte*  
*p*  
*f colla parte*  
*p*  
*f colla parte*  
*pizz.*  
*p*  
*f colla parte*  
*pizz.*  
*p*  
*f colla parte*



The Fringes of the Fleet - Fate's Discourtesy

15 Rit.

Fls

Obs

Cls

Bsns

Hns

Tpts

Trbs

Tmp

Perc

us their sport to - night. Through force of wea - ther, not of war, In jeo - par - dy we steer. —  
 stand to it the more; And as our stream - ing bows dis - miss Each bil - low's baulked ca - reer, —  
 leave to strive to live, Till these dis - solve our Or - der holds, Our Ser - vice binds us here.

Rit.

pizz.

arco

pizz.

The Fringes of the Fleet - Fate's Discourtesy

21 a Tempo

Fls

Obs

Cls

Bsns

Hns

Tpts

Trbs

Tmp

Perc

Then, wel - come Fate's dis - cour - te - sy Where - by it shall ap - pear How in all time of  
 Sing, wel - come Fate's dis - cour - te - sy Where - by it is made clear How in all time of  
 Then wel - come Fate's dis - cour - te - sy Where - by it is made clear How in all time of

a Tempo

div.

arco

Soli

Soli

The Fringes of the Fleet - Fate's Discourtesy

26

Fls  
Obs  
Cls  
Bsns  
Hns  
Tpts  
Trbs  
Tmp  
Perc

our dis-tress As in our tri-umph too, the game is more than the play-er of the game And the  
 our dis-tress As in our tri-umph too,  
 our dis-tress And our de-liv-er-ance too,

The Fringes of the Fleet - Fate's Discourtesy

31

Fls *ff* *colla parte*

Obs *ff* *colla parte*

Cls *ff* *colla parte*

Bsns *ff* *colla parte*

Hns *ff* *colla parte*

Tpts *ff* *colla parte*

Trbns *ff* *colla parte*

Tmp *colla parte*

Perc *f* *ff* *colla parte*

(CHORUS)

ship is more than the crew, The game is more than the play-er of the game And the ship is more than the

*ff* *colla parte*

*ff* *colla parte*

*ff* *colla parte*

*ff* *colla parte*

*ff* *colla parte*



## Submarines.

The ships destroy us above,  
And ensnare us beneath,  
We arise, we lie down, and we move  
In the belly of Death.

The ships have a thousand eyes  
To mark where we come...  
And the mirth of a seaport dies  
When our blow gets home.

RUDYARD KIPLING.

# "The Fringes of the Fleet."

## 3. Submarines. Song.

Words by  
RUDYARD KIPLING.

Music by  
EDWARD ELGAR.

Transcribed by John Morrison, 2019.

**Lento** **1**

1  
Flutes

2

Oboes 1 & 2

1  
Bb Clarinets

2

1  
Bassoons

2

1  
Horns in F

2

1 & 2  
Trombones

3

Timpani

BD, Cym

Sandpaper

VOICE

**Lento** **1**

Violin 1

Violin 2

Viola

Violoncello

Double Bass

The ships des - troy us a - bove And en -

Submarines

A Tempo

5

Fls  
Obs  
Cls  
Bns  
Hns  
Trbs  
Tmp  
Perc  
Sand

*tr*  
*p*  
*colla parte*  
*p*  
*colla parte*  
*colla parte*  
*colla parte*  
*pp* BD  
*pp*  
*pp* *cresc.* *p* *pp*

*pp ad. lib.* *a tempo*  
snare\_ us be - neath, We rise, we lie down, and we move In the bel - ly of

A Tempo

*colla parte*  
*colla parte*  
*tr*  
*colla parte*  
*colla parte*  
*colla parte*



Submarines

⑩ 2 Poco piu animato

Fls *fp* *pp*

Obs *fp* *pp* *pp*

Clas *mf* *fp* *pp*

Bns *mf* *fp* *pp*

Hns *fp* *pp*

Trbs *p*

Tmp

Perc *pp* BD & Cym *pp*

Sand *pp*

*poco piu animato*  
*cresc.*

*allargando*  
*a tempo*

*p* *cresc.*

death. The ships have a thou-sand eyes To mark where we come, And the

*fp* *pp*

*fp* *pp*

*fp* *pp*

*fp* *pp*

*pp*

Submarines

Stringendo rit. - al - Tempo Primo

15

Fls  
Obs  
Cls  
Bns  
Hns  
Trbs  
Tmp  
Perc  
Sand

Solo  
Solo

*f* *ff*  
*f* *ff*  
*p* *mf* *f* *ff*  
*mf* *f* *ff* *p*  
*mf* *f* *ff* *p*  
*mf* *f* *ff* *p*  
*mf* *f* *ff* *p*  
*p* *mf*  
*p* *mf*  
*p* *mf*  
*p* *pp*  
*pp* *f*

*f stringendo* *ff* rit. - al - Tempo Primo  
*dim.* *p*

Tempo I.

mirth of a sea-port dies when our blow gets

Piano  
Sand

Stringendo rit. - al - Tempo Primo

*sf* *f* *ff* *p* *pp*  
*sf* *f* *ff* *p* *pp*  
*sf* *f* *ff* *p* *pp*  
*sf* *f* *ff* *p* *pp*  
*f* *ff* *p*





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## The Sweepers.

Dawn off the Foreland — the young flood making  
    Jumbled and short and steep —  
Black in the hollows and bright where it's breaking —  
    Awkward water to sweep.  
    “Mines reported in the fairway,  
    Warn all traffic and detain.  
'Sent up Unity, Claribel, Assyrian,  
    Stormcock and Golden Gain.”

Noon off the Foreland — the first ebb making  
    Lumpy and strong in the bight.  
Boom after boom, and the golf-hut shaking  
    And the jackdaws wild with fright !  
    “Mines located in the fairway,  
    Boats now working up the chain.  
Sweepers — Unity, Claribel, Assyrian,  
    Stormcock and Golden Gain.”

Dusk off the Foreland — the last light going  
    And the traffic crowding through,  
And five damned trawlers with their syreens blowing  
    Heading the whole review !  
    “Sweep completed in the fairway,  
    No more mines remain.  
'Sent back Unity, Claribel, Assyrian,  
    Stormcock and Golden Gain.”

RUDYARD KIPLING.

# "The Fringes of the Fleet."

4.

Words by  
RUDYARD KIPLING.

The Sweepers.  
Song.

Music by  
EDWARD ELGAR.

Transcribed by John Morrison, 2019.

Moderato.

Flute *f*

Piccolo *f*

2 Oboes *f*

1 Bb Clarinets *f*

2 Bb Clarinets *f*

Bassoons *f* a 2.

Horns in F *f*

Bb Trumpets *f*

Trombones 1/2 *f*

3 & Tuba *f* a 2. *f*

Timpani *f*

SD, BD, Cym, Bell *mf*

VOICE

Moderato.

Violin 1 *f*

Violin 2 *f*

Viola *f*

Violoncello *f*

Double Bass *f*

The Fringes of the Fleet - The Sweepers

allarg. **1** Lento colla parte 4 Bells a Tempo

Fl. *mf* *Clarinet* *mf*

Picc.

Obs.

Cls. *mf*

Bns. *Clarinet* *p*

Hns. *mf*

Tpts.

Trbs.

3 & Tb.

Tmp. *tr*

Perc. 4 Bells *p freely*

*Lento. f Quasi recit.* 4 Bells

Dawn off the Fore-land - the young flood mak-ing

allarg. **1** Lento colla parte 4 Bells a Tempo

*mf* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf*

Cello

The musical score is divided into two systems. The first system covers measures 1 through 16. It features a woodwind section with Flute, Piccolo, Oboe, Clarinet (two parts), Bassoon, Horns, Trumpets, Trombones, and 3rd Trumpet/Tuba. The percussion section includes a Tom-tom and 4 Bells. The woodwinds and strings play in a 4/4 time signature, with the tempo marked 'allarg.' and 'Lento colla parte'. The 4 Bells play in a 4/8 time signature. The second system covers measures 17 through 24. It features a vocal line with lyrics and a string section including Cello. The tempo is marked 'a Tempo'. The woodwinds and strings play in a 4/4 time signature, and the 4 Bells play in a 4/8 time signature.



The Fringes of the Fleet - The Sweepers

rit. **2** a Tempo

Fl.

Picc.

Obs.

Cls.

Bns.

Hns.

Tpts.

Trbs.

3 & Tb.

Tmp.

Perc.

*rit.* *f a tempo* *poco rit.*

Jum-bled and short and steep - Black in the hol-lows and bright where it's break-ing Awk-ward wa-ter to sweep.

rit. **2** a Tempo

*f*

*f*

*f*

*f*

*f*

*f*

The Fringes of the Fleet - The Sweepers

11 **3** colla parte **4** colla parte

Fl.

Picc.

Obs.

Cls.

Bns.

Hns.

Tpts.

Trbs.

3 & Tb.

Tmp.

Perc.

*p* *cresc.* *mf*

*p* *cresc.* *mf*

*p* *cresc.* *mf*

*p* *cresc.* *mf*

*p* *p subito*

*p* *p subito*

*tr*

*p*

*Lento. remote but distinctly*  
*p Recit.* "Mines re-port-ed in the fair-way,  
*cresc.* Warn all traf-fic and de-tain.  
*accel.* 'Sent up Un-i - ty, Clar-i - bel, As-sy-ri-an,  
*a tempo f risoluto*

**3** colla parte **4** colla parte

*mf*

*mf*

*p* *mf*

*p* *mf*

*mf*



The Fringes of the Fleet - The Sweepers

17 5 colla parte 8 Bells a Tempo rit.

Fl.

Picc.

Obs.

Cls.

Bns.

Hns.

Tpts.

Trbs.

3 & Tb.

Tmp.

Perc.

8 Bells

*p freely*

*Lento. f Quasi recit.* 8 Bells *rit.*

Noon off the Fore-land - the first ebb mak-ing Lump-y and strong in the bight.

5 colla parte 8 Bells a Tempo rit.

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

Cello

*mf*

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for a full orchestra and piano. It is in 4/4 time and B-flat major. The piece is divided into two systems. The first system starts at measure 17, marked with a '5' and 'colla parte'. It features woodwinds (Flute, Piccolo, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon, Horn) and strings (Trumpet, Trombone, 3rd Trumpet & Trombone, Timpani). Percussion includes 8 Bells. The piano part is marked 'mf'. The vocal line is marked 'Lento. f Quasi recit.' and includes the lyrics: 'Noon off the Fore-land - the first ebb mak-ing Lump-y and strong in the bight.' The tempo is 'a Tempo' with a 'rit.' (ritardando) marking. The second system starts at measure 5, also marked 'colla parte' and '5'. It features the piano and cello parts, with 'mf' dynamics. The tempo remains 'a Tempo' with a 'rit.' marking.



The Fringes of the Fleet - The Sweepers

23 **7** colla parte **8** colla parte

Fl.

Picc.

Obs.

Cls.

Bns.

Hns.

Tpts.

Trbs.

3 & Tb.

Tmp.

Perc.

*p* *cresc.* *f*

*p* *cresc.* *f*

*p* *cresc.* *f*

*p* *cresc.* *f*

*p* *p subito*

*p* *p subito*

*tr*

*p*

*Lento. remote but distinctly*  
*p Recit.* *cresc.* *accel.* *a tempo*  
*f risoluto*

"Mines lo-ca-ted in the fair-way, Boats now work-ing up the chain. Sweep-ers- Un-i - ty, Clar-i - bel, As-sy-ri-an,

**7** colla parte **8** colla parte

*f*

*f*

*p* *f*

*p* *f*

*p* *f*

The Fringes of the Fleet - The Sweepers

26 a Tempo

Fl

Picc.

Obs

Cls

Bns

Hns

Tpts

Trbs

3 & Tb

Tmp

Perc

SD

*f*

*ff* (CHORUS)

Storm-cock and Gold-en Gain." "Sweep-ers- Un-i-ty, Clar-i-bel, As-sy-ri-an, Storm-cock and Gold-en Gain."

a Tempo

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

The Fringes of the Fleet - The Sweepers

29 **9** colla parte 2 Bells a Tempo

Fl.

Picc.

Obs.

Cls.

Bns.

Hns.

Tpts.

Trbs.

3 & Tb.

Tmp.

Perc.

2 Bells

*p freely*

*Lento. p Quasi recit.*

2 Bells

*a tempo cresc.*

*f ff*

Dusk off the Fore-land - the last light go-ing And the traf-fic crowd-ing through, And

colla parte 2 Bells a Tempo

*pp*

*mf cresc.*

*f*

*pp*

*mf cresc.*

*f*

*pp*

*mf cresc.*

*f*

*pp*

*mf cresc.*

*f*

Cello

*mf*



The Fringes of the Fleet - The Sweepers

33 **10** colla parte

Fl.

Picc.

Obs

Cls

Bns

Hns

Tpts

Trbs

3 & Tb

Tmp

Perc

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*sf*

*f*

*tr*

*a tempo*  
*distinctly*

five damned trawl - ers with their sy - reens blow - ing

*poco rit.*

Head - ing the whole re - view!

**10** colla parte

*f*

*f*

*f*

*f*

The Fringes of the Fleet - The Sweepers

35 **11** colla parte

Fl. *ff*

Picc. *ff*

Obs. *ff*

Cls. *ff*

Bns. *ff*

Hns. *f*

Tpts. *f*

Trbs. *f*

3 & Tb. *f*

Tmp. *f*

Perc. *ff*

(CHORUS)

*Lento.*  
*f Recit.*

Five damned trawlers with their sy-reens blowing Head-ing the whole re-view! "Sweep com-plet-ed in the fair-way,

**11** colla parte

RH. *f*

LH. *f*

The Fringes of the Fleet - The Sweepers

38 **12** colla parte a Tempo

Fl.

Picc.

Obs.

Cls. *cresc.* *mf*

Bns. *cresc.* *mf*

Hns. *cresc.* *mf*

Tpts.

Trbs.

3 & Tb. *p* *p* *f*

Tmp. *p*

Perc. *SD* *p*

*ff*

No more mines re-main. 'Sent back Un-i - ty, Clar-i - bel, As-sy-ri-an, Storm-cock and Gold-en Gain'.

**12** colla parte a Tempo

*p* *f*

*p* *f*

*p* *f*

*p* *f*

The Fringes of the Fleet - The Sweepers

rall.

41

Fl. *ff*

Picc. *ff*

Obs. *ff* a 2.

Cls. *ff*

Bns. *ff*

Hns. *ff*

Tpts. *ff*

Trbs. *ff*

3 & Tb. *ff*

Tmp. *ff*

Perc. *f*

BD, Cym. *f*

*ff* (CHORUS)

"Sent back Un-i-ty, Clar-i-bel, As-sy-ri-an, Storm-cock and Gold-en Gain".

rall.

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*