



Break, break, break

Howard Kingsbury
(1842-1878)

Break, break, break

H. Kingsbury

Largo

S
Break, break, break, _____ On thy cold gray stones, O—

A
Break, break, break, _____ On thy cold gray stones, O

T
Break, break, break, _____ On thy cold gray stones, O

B
Break, break, break, _____ On thy cold gray stones, O

Andante

7
S
Sea! _____ And I would that my tongue _____ could ut - ter

A
Sea! _____ And I would that my tongue _____ could ut - ter

T
Sea! _____ And I would that my tongue _____ could ut - ter

B
Sea! _____ And I would that my tongue _____ could ut - ter



Break, break, break

12

S The thoughts that a - rise in me.

A The thoughts that a - rise in me.

T The thoughts that a - rise in me.

B The thoughts that a - rise in me.

Allegro

S O, well for the fish - er - man's boy, That he

A O, well for the fish - er - man's boy, That he

T O, well for the fish - er - man's boy, That he

B O, well for the fish - er - man's boy, That he

20

S shouts with his sis - ter at play! O,

A shouts with his sis - ter at play! O,

T shouts with his sis - ter at play! O,

B shouts with his sis - ter at play! O,

Break, break, break

24

S well for the sail - or lad, That he

A well for the sail - or lad, That he

T well for the sail - or lad, That he

B well for the sail - or lad, That he

28

S sings in his boat on the bay!

A sings in his boat on the bay!

T sings in his boat on the bay!

B sings in his boat on the bay!

Andante

S And the state - ly ships move on To their

A And the state - ly ships move on To their

T And the state - ly ships move on To their

B And the state - ly ships move on To their

Break, break, break

36

S ha - ven un - der the hill; But

A ha - ven un - der the hill; But

T ha - ven un - der the hill; But

B ha - ven un - der the hill; But

40

S O for the touch of a van - ish'd hand, And the

A O for the touch of a van - ish'd hand, And the

T O for the touch of a van - ish'd hand, And the

B O for the touch of a van - ish'd hand, And the

44

S sound of a voice that is still!

A sound of a voice that is still!

T sound of a voice that is still!

B sound of a voice that is still!

Break, break, break

Largo

48

S Break, break, break _____ At the foot of thy

A Break, break, break _____ At the foot of thy

T Break, break, break _____ At the foot of thy

B Break, break, break _____ At the foot of thy

53

S crags, O Sea! _____ But the ten - der

A crags, O Sea! _____ But the ten - der

T crags, O Sea! _____ But the ten - der

B crags, O Sea! _____ But the ten - der

57

S grace of a day that is dead _____ Will

A grace of a day that is dead _____ Will

T grace of a day that is dead _____ Will

B grace of a day that is dead _____ Will

Break, break, break

61

S
nev - - - er come back to me.

A
nev - - - er come back to me.

T
nev - - - er come back to me.

B
nev - - - er come back to me.

Taintor Brothers
(1874)

Howard Kingsbury (1842–1878) was born in New York City, New York, and graduated from Yale University. He became an ordained minister, serving at the Second Presbyterian Church, Newark, Ohio, and later at the Village Church in Amherst, Massachusetts. He died in Amherst. He wrote many hymns, and wrote part songs for singing schools and conventions. Some of his songs were recognized by the Sol-Fa movement and republished by John Curwen's company in England in both traditional and sol-fa notation.

Break, break, break,
On thy cold gray stones, O Sea!
And I would that my tongue could utter
The thoughts that arise in me.

O, well for the fisherman's boy,
That he shouts with his sister at play!
O, well for the sailor lad,
That he sings in his boat on the bay!

And the stately ships move on *
To their haven under the hill;
But O for the touch of a vanish'd hand,
And the sound of a voice that is still!

Break, break, break
At the foot of thy crags, O Sea!
But the tender grace of a day that is dead
Will never come back to me. **

Alfred, Lord Tennyson (1809-1892)

* some editions of the poem reads "go on" instead of "move on."

** some editions of the poem reads "return to me" instead of "come back to me."

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