

## THE AGE OF EXPLORATION

Now is the time, now is the precious hour:  
A clean, new morning dawns upon the beach:  
That new day's light is nearly in my reach -  
The light of freedom, and of freedom's power.

All you who went before me, sisters all:  
Your sons and husbands charted the unknown;  
You were those fixed ones who stayed at home -  
Who never learned to fly nor learned to fall.

Or if you went in ships you never were  
The captain who sets course through mighty seas.  
Though few are captains, still we can be free  
To seek our vision, and that vision's prayer.

Now dawns upon the world, now comes that hour  
When we - as women - find our voice, our power.

Margaret Hardy

This is the voice of an unnamed, contemporary young woman.

# The Age of Exploration

Poem by Margaret Hardy

1 Andante  $\text{♩} = 80$  *rubato* *p* Glenn Hardy

Voice

Now is the time, \_\_\_\_\_ now is the pre-cious hour:

Harpisichord

Violoncello *f* > *p*

7

V. \_\_\_\_\_ A clean, new mor - ning \_\_\_\_\_ dawns u - pon the

Hps.

Vc

14

V. beach; \_\_\_\_\_ That new day's light is

Hps. *mf* 1 x 8 *colla voce*

Vc *mf*

Detailed description of the musical score: The score is for a vocal piece with instrumental accompaniment. It is in 4/4 time and starts with a tempo of Andante (♩ = 80). The key signature has one sharp (F#). The score is divided into systems. The first system includes the Voice part with lyrics 'Now is the time, \_\_\_\_\_ now is the pre-cious hour:', Harpsichord (Hps.) with a grand staff, and Violoncello (Vc) with a bass line. The second system includes Violin (V.) with lyrics 'A clean, new mor - ning \_\_\_\_\_ dawns u - pon the', Harpsichord (Hps.), and Violoncello (Vc). The third system includes Violin (V.) with lyrics 'beach; \_\_\_\_\_ That new day's light is', Harpsichord (Hps.) with a '1 x 8' marking and 'colla voce' instruction, and Violoncello (Vc). Dynamics include *p* (piano), *f* (forte), and *mf* (mezzo-forte). Performance instructions include *rubato*, *colla voce*, and a crescendo/decrescendo hairpin.

19 *f*

V. near - ly in my reach \_\_\_\_\_ The light of free - dom \_\_\_\_\_

Hps.

Vc

24 *tr*

V. \_\_\_\_\_ and of free - dom's power \_\_\_\_\_

Hps.

Vc


29 *Faster* ♩ = 120


V. \_\_\_\_\_

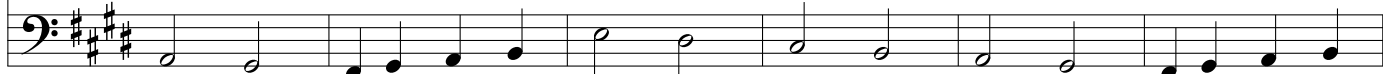
Hps. 2 x 8

Vc *f*


35 *mf*

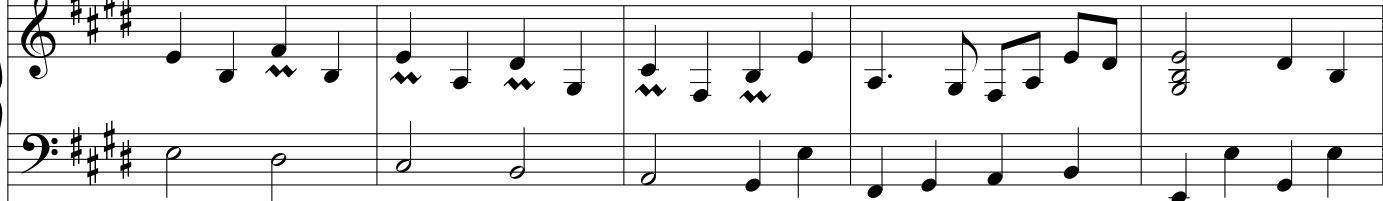
V.    
 Now is the time, \_\_\_\_\_


Hps. 

Vc 

41

V.    
 now is the pre - cious hour: \_\_\_\_\_ A clean, new

Hps. 

Vc 

46

V.    
 mor - ning \_\_\_\_\_ dawns up - on the beach \_\_\_\_\_

Hps. 

Vc 

51

V. That new day's light is near - ly in my

Hps.

Vc.

56

V. reach The light of free - dom and of free - dom's

Hps.

Vc.

61

V. power.

Hps.

Vc.

66

V.

Hps.

Vc.

All you who went be -

71

V.

Hps.

Vc.

fore - me, sis - ters all:

75

V.

Hps.

Vc.

Your sons and hus - bands char - ted the un -


79

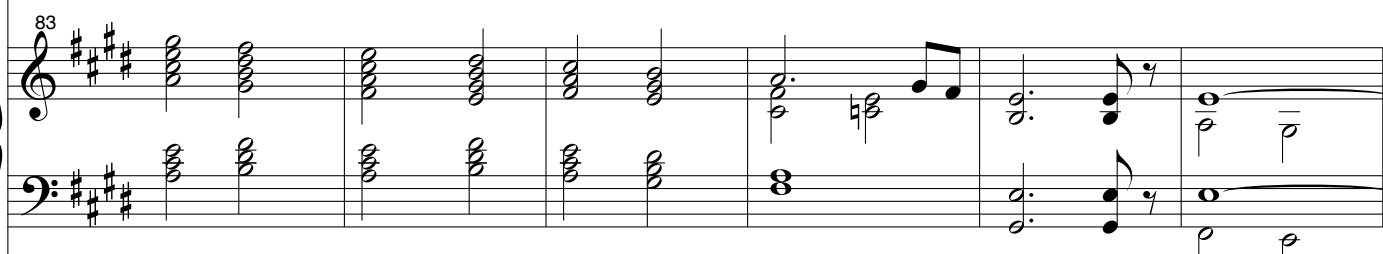
V.    
 known. 


Hps. 

Vc. 


83


V.    
 You were those fix - ed ones Who stay - ed at home - - - - who


Hps. 

Vc. 

89

V.    
 nev - er learned to fly or learned to fall.

Hps. 

Vc. 

94

V. Or if you went in ships you nev - er were ——— The cap - tain who sets

Hps.

Vc.

99

V. course ——— through might - y seas ——— Though few are cap - tains,

Hps.

Vc.

104

V. still we can — be free To seek our vi - sion ——— and that

Hps.

Vc.

109

V. *vi - sion's prayer.*

Hps.

Vc.

114

V. *Now dawns up -*

Hps.

Vc.

120

V. *on the world, now comes that hour When*

Hps. *simile*

Vc.

126

V. we, - as wo - men, find our voice,

Hps.

Vc

132

V. our power.

Hps.

Vc

138

V.

Hps.

Vc