

THE TIDE RISES, THE TIDE FALLS

*For low voice
with piano accompaniment*



by
Vanessa McClintock

Copyright © 2024 by Vanessa McClintock

THE TIDE RISES, THE TIDE FALLS

*For low voice
with piano accompaniment*

Musical Setting of Poem by
Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

by
Vanessa McClintock

Copyright © 2024 by Vanessa McClintock

THE TIDE RISES, THE TIDE FALLS

Set to the short poem of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's poem, this song attempts to touch upon the effervescence and cyclical nature of life, as I interpret the message of the poem to be.

The piano accompaniment depicts the sense of uncertainty one might experience when stepping into or onto a small boat or canoe, or onto a larger vessel with stronger pulls and pushes of a larger body of water. Equilibrium is challenged immediately and calls for the stability and assurance of a sturdy set of "sea legs". The accompaniment is a bit asynchronous and unstable or off-balance, shifting in meters and discontinuity, producing a rhythmic counterpoint and juxtaposition to the melody.

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow as an American poet and educator living from
February 27, 1807 – March 24, 1882

May 2024

Vanessa McClintock, Composer

THE TIDE RISES, THE TIDE FALLS

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

The tide rises, the tide falls,
The twilight darkens, the curlew calls;
Along the sea-sands damp and brown
The traveller hastens toward the town,
And the tide rises, the tide falls.

Darkness settles on roofs and walls,
But the sea, the sea in the darkness calls;
The little waves, with their soft, white hands,
Efface the footprints in the sands,
And the tide rises, the tide falls.

The morning breaks; the steeds in their stalls
Stamp and neigh, as the hostler calls;
The day returns, but nevermore
Returns the traveller to the shore,
And the tide rises, the tide falls.

THE TIDE RISES, THE TIDE FALLS

for low voice

Poem: Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Music: Vanessa McClintock

$\text{♩} = 48$

Vocal *mf*

The tide ris - es, the tide falls,

Piano *mf* *mp*

5 The twi - light dark - ens, the cur - lew calls; _____

9 A-long the sea - sands damp and brown The tra - vel-ler has - tens toward the town,

And the tide ris - es, the tide _____ falls. *mf*

13

17

21

Dark - ness set - tles — on roofs and walls, But the

mp

25

sea, the sea in the dark - ness calls; The lit - tle waves, with their

29

soft white hands, Ef - face the foot-prints in the sands, And the

33

tide ris - es, the tide _____ falls.

mf

37

The

mp

41

morn - ing breaks; the steeds in their stalls _____ Stamp and neigh, as the host - ler calls; _____

45

The day re - turns, but nev - er more Re - turns the tra - vel - ler

49

to the shore, And the tide ris - es, *ritenuto*

53

the tide _____ falls. _____