

Not Waving But Drowning

for Viola, Piano, and Choir

text by Stevie Smith

Nina Young

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Not Waving But Drowning

Approximate Duration: 10:30

Not Waving But Drowning text by Stevie Smith (1902 - 1971)

Nobody heard him, the dead man,
But still he lay moaning:
I was much further out than you thought
And not waving but drowning.

Poor chap, he always loved larking
And now he's dead
It must have been too cold for him his heart gave way,
They said.

Oh, no no no, it was too cold always
(Still the dead one lay moaning)
I was much too far out all my life
And not waving but drowning.

Instrumentation:

Soprano 1
Soprano 2
Alto 1
Alto 2
Tenor 1
Tenor 2
Bass 1
Bass 2

Solo Viola
Piano (full stick)

Notes:

-Choir:

Preferably at least two per part, however an octet version may be performed.

-Piano:

The piano begins with both una corda and sustain pedals. Una corda ceases at measure 26.
Grace notes are to be played before the beat.

-Viola:

ord. = ordinario; s.p. = sul ponticello; s.t. = sul tasto; lines between notes function as slides (the slides should begin on the note); grace notes are to be played before the beat.
Harmonics may be exchanged for different fingerings, natural harmonics, etc, but resulting pitch must be the same.
The viola is featured as a soloist (metaphorically the subject of the poem) and thus may be amplified for purpose of balance against the choir.

Not Waving But Drowning

Nina Young
text by Stevie Smith

♩ = 70

Viola

p *f* *mp* *fp* < *mp* > *f* *fp* < *mp* *fp* < *f* *p*

A

Vla.

mp *mp* *p* < *mf* *p* *mp*

pp
una corda

Vla.

mf *f* *cresc.* *p* *cresc.*

B

Vla.

ff < *fff* *mp* *mp* *p* *pp*

senza una corda

27

Vla. *mf p mp mf p mf f ff p mf f f*

s.p. *ord. → s.p.* *ord.* *s.p.* *ord.* *s.p.* *ord.*

Pno. *p mp*

C

34

S1 *p* Wav - - - ing.

S2 *p* Wav - - - ing.

A1 Wav - ing, wav - ing.

A2 *p* Wav - - - ing, wav - ing, *p* Wav - ing.

T1 Wav - ing.

T2 Wav - ing.

B1 *p* Wav - - - ing, wav - - - ing.

B2 *p* Wav - - - ing.

C

34

Vla. *ff*

Pno. *mf f*

40 *p* *mf* *f* *mf* *ff*

S1 Not wav - ing but drown - ing Drown - ing.

S2 Not wav - ing but drown - ing Drown - ing.

A1 *p* *mf* *f* *mf* *ff* *mp* *p* ,

A2 *p* *mf* *f* *mf* *ff* *mp* *p* ,

T1 *p* *mf* *mf* *ff*

T2 *p* *mf* *f* *mf* *ff*

B1 *mf* *mf* *ff* *mp* *p* ,

B2 *p* *mf* *f* *mf* *ff* *mp* *p* ,

Not wav - ing but drown - ing Drown - ing, drown - - - ing, drown - - - ing, _____

Vla. 40 *mpf* *ff* *mf* *mp* *f* *mp*

Pno. 40 *f* *ff* *mf* *ff* *mp* *f* *p* *f* *mf* *p*

46

S1

S2

A1 *(p)*
drown - ing, drown - ing.

A2 *(p)*
drown - ing, drown - ing.

T1

T2

B1 *(p)*
drown - ing, drown - ing.

B2 *(p)*
drown - ing, drown - ing.

46

Vla. *p mf > p mp s.p. ord. p < mf pp p*

Pno. *f p f dim... mp p mf p*

Sea

D

53

mp *pp* *p* *pp* *p* *fp* *n*

S1 Nobody ___ Nobody ___ No - bo - dy ___ Nobody ___ heard him - m

S2 No ___ No ___ No ___ heard him - m

A1 No - body ___ No - bo - dy ___ heard him - m

A2 No ___ heard him - m

T1 *p* The dead man - n

T2 *p* The dead man - n

B1 *fp* *mp* heard, the dead man, heard him - m -

B2 *fp* *mp* heard him, heard him - m -

D

53

mp *pppp* *p* *mp* *f* *p*

Vla. *arco*

Pno. *mf* *pp*

E

61 *mf* *p* *pp*

S1 No - body No - body heard No - body No - body

S2 *mf* *p* *pp* *p*
The dead man No No

A1 *mf* *mp*
The dead man But still

A2 *mp* *mp*
No-body heard But still

T1 *p* *mp*
The dead man. But still he lay But

T2 *p* *mp*
The dead man. But still he lay But

B1 *(mp)* *mp*
dead man But still he

B2 *(mp)* *mp* *mp*
dead dead man. But still he

E

61 *n* *mp* *mf* *p* *mf* *pp* *mp* *sul pont.*

Vla. *n* *mp* *mf* *p* *mf* *pp* *mp*

Pno. *pp* *mp* *pp* *p* *mp* *mf*

sea sea sea sea sea

F

68 *p* *mf*

S1 *No bo-dy No - bo-dy I was much further out than you thought and*

S2 *body No - bo-dy I was*

A1 *he lay. But still he lay*

A2 *he lay. But still he lay*

T1 *still he lay Was*

T2 *still he lay Was*

B1 *lay But still he lay*

B2 *lay But still he lay*

F

68 *ord.* *pp* *f* *p* *f*

Vla. *pp* *f* *p* *f*

Pno. *p*

Sea *Sea* *Sea* *

74 *p* *mf* *f* *mf* *ff*

S1 Not wav-ing but drown - ing Drown - ing.

S2 Not wav-ing but drown - ing Drown - ing.

A1 Not wav-ing but drown - ing Drown - ing. *p* Poor,

A2 Not wav-ing but drown - ing Drown - ing. *p* Poor,

T1 *p* *mf* *mf* *ff* *p*
Not wav-ing but drown - ing Drown - ing. Poor

T2 *p* *mf* *f* *mf* *ff* *p*
Not wav-ing but drown - ing Drown - ing. Poor

B1 *p* *mf* *f* *mf* *ff*
Not wav-ing but drown - ing Drown - ing.

B2 *p* *mf* *f* *mf* *ff*
Not wav-ing but drown - ing Drown - ing.

Vla. 74 *p* *ff* *n*

Pno. 74 *f* *ff* *fff* *p*

G

♩ → ♩. = 80

80 *p*

S1 Poor, poor, poor, poor, poor, poor chap. Poor

S2 *p* Poor, poor, poor, poor, poor, poor chap. Poor

A1 poor, poor, poor, poor, poor, poor chap. Poor

A2 poor, poor, poor, poor, poor, poor, chap. Poor

T1 *sf* *pp* *mf* Poor chap. Poor

T2 *sf* *pp* *mf* Poor chap. Poor

B1 *mf* Poor

B2 *mf* Poor

Poor

G

♩ → ♩. = 80

80

Vla. *mp* *mf*

Pno. *cresc.*

* Sea * Sea * Sea

86 (mf)

S1 chap, poor chap. larking, he always loved lark ing

S2 chap, poor chap. larking he always loved lark ing

A1 chap, poor chap. he al-ways loved larking he al-ways loved lark ing

A2 chap, poor chap. he al-ways loved larking he al-ways loved lark ing

T1 8 chap, poor chap. lark - - - -

T2 8 chap, poor chap. lark - - - -

B1 *p* Poor chap. *mp* lark - - - -

B2 *p* Poor chap. *mp* lark - - - -

Vla. 86 *f* *cresc.*

Pno. 86 *mf* *cresc.*

* tea * tea * tea * tea * tea * tea *

H

92

S1
poor chap lark - - - ing he al - ways loved

S2
poor - chap lark - - - ing he al - ways loved

A1
poor chap poor chap.

A2
poor - chap poor chap.

T1
ing. poor chap poor chap. It must

T2
ing. poor chap poor chap. It must

B1
ing They said. They said.

B2
ing They said. They said.

mp

mp

mp

mp

H

92

Vla.
ff *mp* *ff* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

Pno.
f *dim...* *8va*

8va

8va

8va

98 *(mf)*

S1 lark ing lark - - - ing

S2 lark ing lark - - - ing

A1 *(mp)* It must have been too cold for him. It must have been

A2 *(mp)* It must have been too cold for him. It must have been

T1 *(mp)* 8 have been too cold for him. It must have been too cold for him. It must have been

T2 *(mp)* 8 have been too cold for him It must have been too cold for him. It must have been

B1 *(mp)* They said. They said. They said.

B2 *(mp)* They said. They said. They said.

Vla. *ord.* *s.p.* *ord.* *ord.* *s.p.*

Pno. *mp*

104 *mp* *mf*

S1 too cold for him. It must have been too cold for him. His heart

S2 too cold for him. It must have been too cold for him. It must have been too cold

A1 too cold for him. It must have been too cold for him. It must have been too cold

A2 too cold for him. It must have been too cold for him. It must have been too cold

T1 too cold for him. It must have been too cold for him. It must have been too cold

T2 too cold for him. It must have been too cold for him. It must have been too cold

B1 They said. They said. It must have been too fold

B2 They said. They said. It must have been too cold

Vla. *ord.* *ord.* *s.p.* *ord.* *ord.* *s.p.*

Pno. *cresc.*

tea *tea* *tea* *tea*

I

rit. ----- $\bullet \rightarrow \text{♩} = 70$

110 (mf) *f* *mf* *ff*

S1 gave way, too cold for him his heart gave way

S2 (mp) for him. It must have been too cold, too cold for him his heart gave way

A1 (mp) for him. It must have been too cold, too cold for him his heart gave way

A2 (mp) for him. It must have been too cold, too cold for him his heart gave way

T1 (mp) for him. It must have been too cold, too cold for him his heart gave way

T2 (mp) for him. It must have been too cold, too cold for him his heart gave way

B1 (mp) for him. It must have been too cold. too cold for him his heart gave way

B2 (mp) for him. It must have been too cold. too cold for him his heart gave way

I

rit. ----- $\bullet \rightarrow \text{♩} = 70$

ord. \rightarrow s.p. ord. \rightarrow s.p. ord. \rightarrow s.p. ord.

110 *ff* *fff*

Vla. *ff* *fff*

rit. ----- $\bullet \rightarrow \text{♩} = 70$

110 (cresc.) *mf* *f* *ff*

Pno. *mf* *f* *ff*

Lea Lea Lea Lea Lea Lea Lea Lea

117 *n* *lunga* *p* < *ff* > *p* < *ff* > *p* < *ff* > *p* < *ff* > *pp* < *n*

S1 And now he's dead.

S2 And now he's dead.

A1 And now he's dead.

A2 And now he's dead.

T1 And now he's dead. They said. *p*

T2 And now he's dead. They said. *p*

B1 And now he's dead. They said. *p*

B2 And now he's daed. They said. *p*

Vla. 117 *lunga* *fff* *ord.* *ff* *s.t.* *pp* *p*

Pno. 117 *lunga* *fff* *mp* *mf* *p*

124 *p* 3

S1 They said. _____

S2 They said. _____

A1 *p* 3 (hum) *n*
They said. _____ mmm... _____

A2 *p* 3 (hum) *n*
They said. _____ mmm... _____

T1 *pp*
dead.

T2 *pp*
dead.

B1 *pp*
dead.

B2 *pp*
dead.

Vla. *ppp* *p* *n*

Pno. *pp*

Sea

J

♩ = 50

132

S1

S2

A1

A2

T1

T2

B1

B2

J

♩ = 50

132

Vla.

ord. *s.f.*

ppp < *p* > *n* *pp*

♩ = 50

132

Pno.

ppp *pppp* *f* *mp*

3

8va

Sea

K

142

S1

S2

A1

A2

T1

T2

B1

B2

p

And now he's dead.

Oh, no_ no no, it was_ too cold_ al - ways.

K

142

Vla.

f *ppp* *p* *n* *pp*

pizz. *arco* *s.l.*

mp

Pno.

148

S1 *pp* too cold al - ways *n*

S2 *pp* too cold al - ways *n*

A1 *pp* too cold al - ways

A2 *pp* too cold al - ways

T1 *p* And now he's dead.

T2 *p* And now he's dead.

B1 *p* Oh, no no no, it was too cold al - ways

B2

Vla. *mp* *8va*

Pno. *mp*

153 *p* *pp* *p* *pp* *p* (*mf*)

S1 Oh, no Oh, no Oh, no no no no

S2 no no no, (*mf*)

A1 Oh, no no no, too cold.

A2 no, too cold.

T1 (Still the deadone laymoan-ing) (Still the deadone laymoaning)

T2 (Still the deadone laymoan-ing) (Still the deadone laymoaning)

B1 Oh, no no no, it was too cold al - - - ways

B2

Vla. 153 *fp* *mf* *p* *mf* *mp*

Pno. 153 *p* *pp*

L

158 *p*
S1 Oh no no no, it was too cold al - - - ways
S2 Oh no no no, it was too cold al - - - ways
A1 *n*
A2 *n*
T1 *p*
T2 *p*
B1 *p*
B2 *p*
I was much too far out all my life
Oh, no no no it was too cold al - - - ways.
Oh, no no no it was too cold al - - - ways.
(Still the
(Still the

L

158
Vla. *mf* *n* *mp* *n* *mp*
Pno. *mp*
Sea Sea Sea Sea Sea Sea

M

163

S1

S2

A1
and not wav ing butdrown - ing I was much too far out all my life and not waving but drown - ing.

A2
and not wav ing butdrown - ing I was much too far out all my life and not waving but drown - ing.

T1

T2

B1
dead one lay moan - ing)

B2

Vla.

163

n < mp

3

8va

Pno.

163

cresc.

3

166

S1

S2

A1 *mp* 3 3 3 3 *mf* 3 3

I was muchtoo far out all my life and not wav-ing butdrown-ing I was muchtoo far out all my life

A2 *mp* 3 3 3 3 *mf* 3 3

I was muchtoo far out all my life and not wav-ing butdrown-ing I was muchtoo far out all my life

T1

T2

B1

B2

Vla. 166 (8va) 3

Pno. *mf* *cresc.*

169

S1

S2

A1

A2

T1

T2

B1

B2

Vla.

169

transition to scratch tone.....

ord.

fff *p*

Pno.

(cresc.)

f

fff

8^{vb}

8^{vb}

Sea