On the Edge of the Water

Low voice and piano

Elizabeth Alexander
for Abbie Betinis

On the Edge of the Water

for low voice and piano

Fluid (\( \int = 76-88 \))

Some where there's a lit tle Child on the edge of the Wa ter,

The Wat er is big, the Wat er is deep, the
Water is One. (n)*

Some where there’s a lit - tle Child,

on the edge

of the Water,

Where there’s Water and children,

expectantly freely

Where there’s Water and children,

colla voce

* This closing to the “n” subsequent cutoff, here and in m.35, do not need to be rhythmically precise; I'm wanting to give singer permission to take some license with this cutoff. -E.A.
A tempo

fun.

The

Child sees possibilities — in the wake of the Water —

The Water says "Oh," the Water says "My," the
51
Water says “Yes.”

55
The Child sees something dancing, something...

59
sparkling, something full of mystery,

62
It's with awe.

with awe
65
al-most like the Wat-er.

68
- a-live.
glistening

72

77
mp
A LOT OF HARD WORK & CREATIVITY WENT INTO BRINGING THIS MUSIC TO YOU...

...AND SOME OF IT WAS EVEN MINE.

This page has been intentionally left blank.

(YOU KNOW WHY.)

A COMPLETE PERUSAL COPY MAY BE PURCHASED FROM ELIZABETH ALEXANDER AT

Seafarer Press

www.seafarerpress.com
90
in her eye,

93
Send ing - drips and drops and
droplets - brightly - soaring -

96
through the - open - air.

99


They are flying—
on the

wild, wild—
ride—

of their

Life.
Some fly wide and far and high.

Savoring each moment and welcoming ev'ry
dawn.

Some are hardly made before they're gone. That's how it happens, freely, meno mosso just how it happens,
All we know and all we are is drops of the Water, -

A tempo

Catch-ing the light and hold-ing it in our mirrors - for a time.

A gainst our skin we

mp fully, expansively
A LOT OF HARD WORK & CREATIVITY WENT INTO BRINGING THIS MUSIC TO YOU...

...AND SOME OF IT WAS EVEN MINE.

This page has been intentionally left blank.

(YOU KNOW WHY.)

A COMPLETE PERUSAL COPY MAY BE PURCHASED FROM ELIZABETH ALEXANDER AT

Seafarer Press

www.seafarerpress.com
fall back down into the

colla voce

A tempo, meno mosso

Water.

Somewhere there’s a little Child

on the edge of the Water.

just
On the Edge of the Water

Somewhere there’s a little Child on the edge of the Water. The Water is big, the Water is deep, the Water is One. Somewhere there’s a little Child on the edge of the Water, Where there’s Water - and children - there will be fun.


The Child sees something dancing, something sparkling, something full of mystery: It’s almost like the Water is alive.

Every day and night the Child is kicking up the Water, Kicking up the Water with abandon in her eye, Sending drips and drops and droplets brightly soaring through the open air. They are flying on the wild ride of their life.

Some fly wide and far and high, Savoring each moment and welcomed every dawn. Some are hardly made before they’re gone - That’s how it happens. Just how it happens.

All we know and all we are is drops of the Water, Catching the light and holding it in our mirrors for a time. Against our skin we feel it: all that open air. We are flying, we are flying, we are flying - Until we fall back down into the Water.

Somewhere there’s a little Child on the edge of the Water. Just loving the Water...
* The Eternal One (Ralph Waldo Emerson, adapted) ........................................ SEA-093-00
Die Gedanken Sind Frei (16th c. German protest song, arr.) [duet] alto, baritone, piano .... SEA-087-01
A Garret of Old Playthings (Carl Sandburg) soprano and piano ............................... SEA-028-00
I Write This Poem Out of Darkness (George Ella Lyon) SSA trio, flute, violin, piano .... SEA-024-01
* A Love Like That (Hafiz, translated/adapted by Daniel Ladinsky) ......................... SEA-094-00
* I'll Tell You a Story, then... (Nancy White) ......................................................... SEA-094-00
Jó! (The Edict of Torda) SSA trio or ensemble ......................................................... SEA-092-00
My Aunt Gives Me a Clarinet Lesson (Gregory Djanikian)
   soprano, flute, clarinet, violin, cello, piano, percussion ........................................ SEA-053-00
No One Gets a Program (Riff on a Dutch proverb) [duet] low voice, medium voice, piano . SEA-095-07
* Oath Taking (Opal Palmer Adisa) .......................................................... SEA-073-00
On the Edge of the Water (E. Alexander) low voice, piano ...................................... SEA-083-00
So Many Corners (Rose Ausländer) soprano, piano ................................................. SEA-040-00
So Many Corners (Rose Ausländer) soprano, chamber orchestra ............................... SEA-040-01
* Sleep Song (Ann Silsbee) soprano, piano ......................................................... SEA-061-00
* The Gospel Isn’t Written In the Bible Alone (E. Alexander) .............................. SEA-082-00
Three Rose Auslander Songs (R. Ausländer) soprano, strings, percussion .............. SEA-040-05
Trouble in a Minnesota Town (Neal Bowers) baritone, piano .................................. SEA-047-00

* Titles without specific voice type exist in multiple voicings (low, medium and high).

For a complete catalog of vocal, choral, piano, chamber and orchestral music,
including recordings and score excerpts, visit:

Seafarer Press
www.seafarerpress.com