

SAB

I Am in Need of Music

\$2.00

Christopher Alexander

I Am in Need  
of Music

*SAB and Piano*

*Also available in SATB*

**cantareworks**

THE MUSIC OF CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

## About the Work

The timeless words of Elizabeth Bishop receive a classical treatment with this lyrical melody supported by light, arpeggiated accompaniment (though written in 3/4 meter feels like 9/8 meter because of the constant triplets). Suitable for any occasion and concert performance.

*I am in need of music that would flow  
Over my fretful, feeling fingertips,  
Over my bitter-tainted, trembling lips,  
With melody, deep, clear, and liquid-slow.  
Oh, for the healing swaying, old and low,  
Of some song sung to rest the tired dead,  
A song to fall like water on my head,  
And over quivering limbs, dream flushed to glow!*

*There is a magic made by melody,  
A spell of rest, and quiet breath, and cool  
Heart, that sinks through fading colors deep  
To the subaqueous stillness of the sea,  
And floats forever in a moon-green pool,  
Held in the arms of rhythm and of sleep.*

— Elizabeth Bishop (1911-1979)

## About the Composer



Mr. Christopher Alexander is an award-winning composer and arranger from St. Joseph, Missouri. He received his Bachelor of Science in Vocal Music Education degree from Missouri Western State University in 2009. A self-taught pianist, his compositions and arrangements ranging from instrumental works to vocal solo and choral literature. Mr. Alexander has been commissioned numerous times by singing groups and church choirs within the northwest Missouri and northeast Kansas regions. He is also active in musical theatre productions as a music director and pianist. His works have been published with GIA Music Publications and Hal Leonard.

In 2016, he was awarded the St. Joseph Allied Arts Council Mayor's Award for Artist of the Year. In 2022, he was inducted into the New Generation Singers Hall of Fame.

Mr. Alexander currently serves as the pianist and primary arranger for The New Generation Singers, a Christian singing youth group based in St. Joseph, Missouri. He is a member of NAFME, ACDA, MCDA, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity.

He is available for commissions and conducting events on request.

# I AM IN NEED OF MUSIC

Words by  
ELIZABETH BISHOP

SAB and Piano

Music by  
CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

Moderato (♩ = c. 70-72)

PIANO

L. H. *mp*

*sim.*

5

SOPRANO  
ALTO

*mp* *unis.*

I am in need of music that would flow

BARITONE

5

9

Over my fretful, feeling fingertips,

9

Also available in SATB.

I Am in Need of Music - SATB

13

*mp* O - ver my bit - ter - sweet - ed, *mf* trem - bling lips, With

13

*mf*

17

*mp* mel - o - dy, deep, *mf* clear, and li - quid - slow.

17

21

*mp* Oh, for the heal - ing sway - ing, old and low *mp* Of some

21

*mp*

25

song sung to rest the ti - red dead,

25

29

A song of all like wa - ter on my head, And

29

33

o - ver qui-ver-ing limbs, dreams flashed to glow!

33