Annabel Lee

Arranged for SATB Choir by: Mike Fernez

It was many and many a year ago,
In a kingdom by the sea,
That a maiden there lived whom you may know
By the name of Annabel Lee;
And this maiden she lived with no other thought
Than to love and be loved by me.

She was a child and I was a child,
In this kingdom by the sea,
But we loved with a love that was more than love—
I and my Annabel Lee—
With a love that the wingèd seraphs of Heaven
Coveted her and me.

And this was the reason that, long ago,
In this kingdom by the sea,
A wind blew out of a cloud, chilling
My beautiful Annabel Lee;
So that her highborn kinsmen came
And bore her away from me,
To shut her up in a sepulchre
In this kingdom by the sea.

The angels, not half so happy in Heaven,
Went envying her and me—
Yes!—that was the reason (as all men know,
In this kingdom by the sea)
That the wind came out of the cloud by night,
Chilling and killing my Annabel Lee.

But our love it was stronger by far than the love
Of those who were older than we—
Of many far wiser than we—
And neither the angels in Heaven above
Nor the demons down under the sea
Can ever dissever my soul from the soul
Of the beautiful Annabel Lee;

For the moon never beams, without bringing me dreams
Of the beautiful Annabel Lee;
And the stars never rise, but I feel the bright eyes
Of the beautiful Annabel Lee;
And so, all the night-tide, I lie down by the side
Of my darling—my darling—my life and my bride,
In her sepulchre there by the sea—
In her tomb by the side of the sea.

--Edgar Allan Poe (1849)

Some notes on performance/notation:

- Rests in this piece represent the poetic breath and therefore do not need to be held for their written duration. The conductor might so choose to pause slightly longer (or shorter) for added affect. This is especially in the case of 1/4 or 2/4 measures
 - Same goes for breathmarks (although these should be notably shorter than rests)
- Glissandi are used to note that singers should split off similar to how a piano plays arpeggios. For example, here, *all* sopranos start on C, two-thirds move up to, and half of the remaining take the E. Sing like a very fast grace note.



 Most individual lines have their own ebb and flow marked by cresc. and dim. These should all be achieved little by little, ending the dynamic marked at the end of the phrase

This piece is dedicated to my composition class, all of whom have gone above and beyond to give me wonderfully thoughtful feedback on my work and have inspired me with their own. I can't wait to see their work performed on stage someday!

Edgar Allan Poe Michael Fernez















































