

# Ebb

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## 6 Part Vocals

*Music by:*

Mitchell Fund

*Text:*

Edna St. Vincent Millay

*Duration:* 3:00

# Information Sheet

## Performance Notes

Ebb may be sung with any voices on any parts in any octave that may produce a good blend. For mixed chorus, I find SA SA TB gives the piece a good texture, but feel free to experiment. Take care to enunciate the “L” at the end of pool or the piece gains a considerably different tone. At the end, hum the final note until all voices have finished singing.

## About the Poet: Edna St. Vincent Millay



Poet and playwright Edna St. Vincent Millay was well known for beautiful lyrical writing, riveting performances, and helping to bring strong feminist and progressive viewpoints to the mainstream American public during the roaring twenties and beyond. The themes of heartbreak, loss, nature, and the impermanence of life are found frequently in her works. Ebb, written in 1922, deftly manages to hit all of those marks in only 35 words.

## About the Composer: Mitchell Fund



I've been a music teacher, composer, and performer in the Puget Sound region of the Pacific Northwest for over 18 years. In 2021 I decided to follow my Walden dreams and built a small, off grid cabin in the foothills of the Cascade mountains. I spend my days amongst nature composing, reading, writing, and teaching remote music lessons. My main composition inspirations are Arvo Pärt, Henryk Górecki, Tomás Luis de Victoria, Ralph Vaughn Williams, and nature itself.

I have dozens of pieces on my website, [mitchellfundmusic.com](http://mitchellfundmusic.com), all free to download. (Though donations are always appreciated!) My Choral Shorts series are pieces, canons, exercises, and warmups designed to be easy to print out on one piece of paper and composed from a teacher's viewpoint to help work on specific choral techniques.

## Ebb

① Smoothly ♩ = 60 Six part double canon ②

*mp*

Voice I (8) mm \_\_\_\_\_ I

Voice II (8) ah \_\_\_\_\_ ah \_\_\_\_\_ ah \_\_\_\_\_ ah \_\_\_\_\_

③

I know what my heart is like, since your love died,

II I know what my heart is like since your love died,

I 10 I \_\_\_\_\_ know what my heart is like since your love died, It *f*

II ah \_\_\_\_\_

I 14 is like a hol-low ledge \_\_\_\_\_ hold - ing a lit - tle pool

II *f* It is like a hol - low ledge. \_\_\_\_\_ hold - ing a lit - tle pool.

(sing the lower notes if you've got them)

*mf*

18

I Left there by the tide, \_\_\_\_\_ a lit - tle pool Left there by the

II Left there by the tide, \_\_\_\_\_ a lit-tle te-pid pool.

22

I tide. \_\_\_\_\_ I know what my heart is like \_\_\_\_\_

*mf*

II Left there by the tide, \_\_\_\_\_ a lit-tle te-pid pool. \_\_\_\_\_

26

I dry-ing in-ward from the edge. \_\_\_\_\_ I know what my heart is like \_\_\_\_\_

II dry-ing in-ward from the edge. \_\_\_\_\_ I know what my heart is like

30

*mp*

I ah \_\_\_\_\_ ah \_\_\_\_\_ ah \_\_\_\_\_ ah \_\_\_\_\_ mm

*mp*

II mm \_\_\_\_\_

Hold and stagger breathe  
until all parts have finished

## Six part double canon - all parts realized

① Smoothly ♩ = 60  
*mp*

Voice I  
(8) mm \_\_\_\_\_

Voice II  
(8) \_\_\_\_\_ *mp* ah \_\_\_\_\_ ah \_\_\_\_\_ ah \_\_\_\_\_ ah \_\_\_\_\_

Voice III  
(8) \_\_\_\_\_ *mp* \_\_\_\_\_ mm

Voice IV  
(8) \_\_\_\_\_

Voice V  
(8) \_\_\_\_\_

Voice VI  
(8) \_\_\_\_\_

②

I  
know what my heart is like, since your love died,

II  
I know what my heart is like since your love died,

III  
\_\_\_\_\_ *mp* \_\_\_\_\_

IV  
ah \_\_\_\_\_ ah \_\_\_\_\_ ah \_\_\_\_\_ ah \_\_\_\_\_

V  
\_\_\_\_\_ *mp* \_\_\_\_\_ mm

VI  
\_\_\_\_\_

③

2  
10

Ebb

*f*

I I know what my heart is like since your love died, It

II ah

III know what my heart is like, since your love died,

IV I know what my heart is like since your love died,

V

VI *mp* ah ah ah ah

14

I is like a hol-low ledge hold - ing a lit-tle pool

II It is like a hol - low ledge. hold - ing a lit-tle pool.

III I know what my heart is like since your love died, It

IV ah

V know what my heart is like, since your love died,

VI I know what my heart is like since your love died,

18

*mf*

I Left there by the tide, \_\_\_\_\_ a lit - tle pool Left there by the

II Left there by the tide, \_\_\_\_\_ a lit - tle te - pid pool.

III is like a hol-low ledge \_\_\_\_\_ hold - ing a lit-tle pool

*f* IV It is like a hol - low ledge. \_\_\_\_\_ hold - ing a lit-tle pool.

V I \_\_\_\_\_ know what my heart is like since your love died, It

*f* VI ah \_\_\_\_\_

22

I tide. \_\_\_\_\_ I know what my heart is like \_\_\_\_\_

*mf* II Left there by the tide, \_\_\_\_\_ a lit-tle te-pid pool. \_\_\_\_\_

III Left there by the tide, \_\_\_\_\_ a lit - tle pool Left there by the

IV Left there by the tide, \_\_\_\_\_ a lit-tle te-pid pool.

V is like a hol-low ledge \_\_\_\_\_ hold - ing a lit - tle pool

*mf* VI It is like a hol - low ledge. \_\_\_\_\_ hold - ing a lit-tle pool.

I dry - ing in - ward from the edge. I know what my heart is like

II dry - ing in - ward from the edge. I know what my heart is like

III tide. I know what my heart is like

IV *mf* Left there by the tide, a lit - tle te - pid pool. *mf*

V Left there by the tide, a lit - tle pool Left there by the

VI Left there by the tide, a lit - tle te - pid pool.

I *mp* ah ah ah ah

II *mp* mm

III dry - ing in - ward from the edge. I know what my heart is like

IV dry - ing in - ward from the edge. I know what my heart is like

V tide. I know what my heart is like

VI *mf* Left there by the tide, a lit - tle te - pid pool.



Score for measures 34-37, marked **Ebb**.

Part I: Sustained notes with *mm* marking.

Part II: Sustained notes with *mm* marking.

Part III: Melodic line with *mp* marking and vocalizations "ah".

Part IV: Sustained notes with *mp* and *mm* markings.

Part V: Melodic line with lyrics: "dry-ing in-ward from the edge." and "I know what my heart is like".

Part VI: Melodic line with lyrics: "dry-ing in-ward from the edge." and "I know what my heart is like".

Score for measures 38-41, marked **Ebb**.

Part I: Sustained notes with *mm* marking.

Part II: Sustained notes with *mm* marking.

Part III: Sustained notes with *mm* marking.

Part IV: Sustained notes with *mm* marking.

Part V: Melodic line with *mp* marking and vocalizations "ah".

Part VI: Melodic line with *mp* and *mm* markings.