

BDG4201

# 小白船

## Little White Boat

Arr. Benedict Goh

SAB Chorus and Piano

MUZIKSEA

## Arranger's note

小白船 (xiǎo bái chuán) or *Little White Boat* originated from Korea and became a popular lullaby in China. The first verse references the bright celestial object in the night sky that resembles a little white boat, and the second verse speaks of a journey towards paradise. Although it is known to most as a children's song, it embodies a deeper sense of spirituality and existentialism. The beauty of Little White Boat lies in the simplicity of its text and melody. The richness of the unspoken is demonstrated with lush jazz harmonies and contrasting musical textures that support and highlight the magic and majesty in the poetry.

### Chinese text and pronunciation

蓝蓝的天空银河里，  
lán lán di tiān kōng yín hé lǐ  
有只小白船；  
yǒu zhī xiǎo bái chuán  
船上有棵桂花树，  
chuán shàng yǒu kē guì huā shù  
白兔在游玩。  
bái tù zài yǒu wǎn  
桨儿桨儿看不见，  
jiǎng'er jiǎng'er kàn bú jiàn  
船上也没帆，  
chuán shàng yě méi fān  
飘呀飘呀，飘向西天  
piāo ya piāo ya, piāo xiàng xī tiān  
渡过那条银河水，  
dù guò nà tiáo yín hé shuǐ  
走向云彩国，  
zǒu xiàng yún cǎi guó  
走过那个云彩国，  
zǒu guò nà ge yún cǎi guó  
再向哪儿去？  
zài xiàng nǎ'er qù?  
在那遥远的地方，  
zài nà yáo yuǎn de dì fāng  
闪着金光。  
shǎn zhe jīn guāng  
晨星是灯塔，  
chén xīng shì dēng tǎ  
照呀照得亮。  
zhào ya zhào dé liàng

### English translation

Up in the deep blue sky across the milky way,  
Lies a little white boat;  
There is an Osmanthus tree,  
and a rabbit frolicking within.  
This boat has no oars,  
nor sails on it,  
it just drifts and drifts towards the western sky  
journeying across the milky way,  
onward to a kingdom in the clouds  
beyond the kingdom it went,  
where else is it going?  
At a faraway place,  
shines a golden beam of light.  
It is the North Star,  
a beacon that lights the path ahead.

# 小白船 Little White Boat

For SAB Chorus & Piano

Korean Folk Song  
Arranged by Benedict Goh

Tranquil ♩ = 108

SOPRANO

Ooh, \_\_\_\_\_ ooh. \_\_\_\_\_

ALTO

Ooh, \_\_\_\_\_ ooh. \_\_\_\_\_

[Falsetto if necessary]

BASS

Ooh, \_\_\_\_\_ ooh. \_\_\_\_\_

Piano

Tranquil ♩ = 108

rall. \_\_\_\_\_

7 **Flowing** ♩ = 112


S.

A.

B.

Pno.

Flowing ♩ = 112

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11 *Dolce* ♩ = 108

S. *Dolce* ♩ = 108  
 蓝 lan 蓝 lan 的 di 天 tian 空 kong 银 yin 河 he 里 li

A. *Dolce* ♩ = 108  
 蓝 lan 蓝 lan 的 di 天 tian 空 kong 银 yin 河 he 里 li

Pno.

15

S.  
 有 you 只 zhi 小 xiao 白 bai 船 chuan

A.  
 有 you 只 zhi 小 xiao 白 bai 船 chuan

Pno.

19 *mp*

S. *mp*  
 船 chuan 上 shang 有 you 棵 ke 桂 gui 花 hua 树 shu

A. *mp*  
 船 chuan 上 shang 有 you 棵 ke 桂 gui 花 hua 树 shu

Pno. *mp*

23

S. 

白 bai 兔 tu 在 zai 游 you 玩 wan

A. 

白 bai 兔 tu 在 zai 游 you 玩 wan

Pno. 

27

S. 

桨 jiang 儿 er 桨 jiang 儿 er 看 kan 不 bu 见 jian

A. 

桨 jiang 儿 er 桨 jiang 儿 er 看 kan 不 bu 见 jian

B. 

Ooh,

Pno. 

31

S. *船 上 也 没 帆*  
chuan mei fan na chuan

A. *船 上 也 没 帆*  
chuan mei fan na chuan

B. oh, ah.

Pno.

35 *mf*

S. *飘 呀 飘 呀*  
piao ya piao ya

A. *mf*  
*飘 呀 飘 呀*  
piao ya piao ya

B. *mf*  
*飘 呀 飘 呀*  
piao ya piao ya

Pno. *mf*

39 *mp*

S. *mp*  
飘 向 西 天  
piao xiang xi tian

A. *mp*  
飘 向 西 天  
piao xiang xi tian

B. *mp*  
飘 向 西 天  
piao xiang xi tian

Pno. *mp*

43 *f*

S. *f*  
渡 过 那 条 银 河 水  
du guo na tiao yin he shui

A. *mf*  
渡 过 那 条 银 河 水  
du guo na tiao yin he shui

B. *mp*  
渡 过 那 条  
du guo na tiao

Pno. *mf*

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55

S. 

再 zai 向 xiang 哪 na 儿 er 去 qu

A. 

再 zai 向 xiang 哪 na 儿 er 去 qu


B. 

再 zai 向 xiang 哪 na 儿 er 去 qu


Pno. 

**Distant** ♩ = 108


59 *p*

S. 

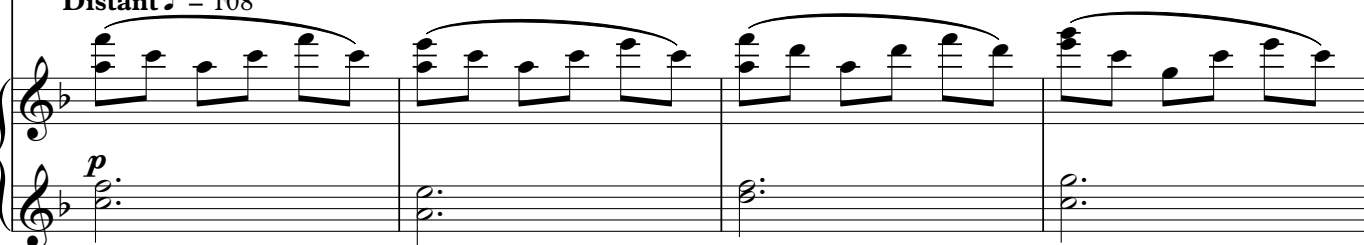
在 zai 那 na 遥 yao 远 yuan 的 de 地 di 方 fang

A. 

在 zai 那 na 遥 yao 远 yuan 的 de 地 di 方 fang

B. 

在 zai 那 na 遥 yao 远 yuan 的 de 地 di 方 fang

Pno. 

*p*

63 *molto cresc.*

S. 闪 shan 着 zhe 金 jin 光 guang

A. 闪 shan 着 zhe 金 jin 光 guang

B. 闪 shan 着 zhe 金 jin 光 guang

Pno. *molto cresc.*

67 **Grandioso** ♩ = 108 *ff rall.*

S. 晨 chen 星 xing 是 shi 灯 deng 塔 ta

A. *ff* 晨 chen 星 xing 是 shi 灯 deng 塔 ta

B. *ff* 晨 chen 星 xing 是 shi 灯 deng 塔 ta

Pno. **Grandioso** ♩ = 108 *ff*

Calmly ♩ = 104

sub. *mp*

71

S. *sub. mp*  
照 zhao 呀 ya 照 zhao 得 de 亮 liang

A. *sub. mp*  
照 zhao 呀 ya 照 zhao 得 de 亮 liang

B. *sub. mp*  
照 zhao 呀 ya 照 zhao 得 de 亮 liang

Calmly ♩ = 104

sub. *mp*

Pno. *sub. mp*

Slower ♩ = 100

75

S. *p*  
Oh

A. *p*  
Oh

B. *p*  
oh

Slower ♩ = 100

Pno. *p*

79

S. ooh mm

A. ooh mm

B. ooh mm

Pno.

83

S. *ppp*

A. *ppp*

B. *ppp*

Pno. *ppp*