



The Angler's Song

Charles Villiers Stanford
(1852-1924)

The Angler's Song

C. V. Stanford

Con moto leggiero

S
O the gal - lant Fish - er's life, It is the best of an - y! 'Tis full of

A
O the gal - lant Fish - er's life, It is the best of an - y! 'Tis full of

T
O the gal - lant Fish - er's life, It is the best of an - y! 'Tis full of

B
O the gal - lant Fish - er's life, It is the best of an - y! 'Tis full of

S
plea - sure, void of strife, And 'tis be - loved by man - y; Oth - er joys Are but toys;

A
plea - sure, void of strife, And 'tis be - loved by man - y; Oth - er joys Are but toys;

T
plea - sure, void of strife, And 'tis be - loved by man - y; Oth - er joys Are but

B
plea - sure, void of strife, And 'tis be - loved by man - y; Oth - er joys Are but

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7 *cresc.*

S On - ly this Law - ful is; For our skill Breeds no ill,

A *cresc.* On - ly this Law - ful is; For our skill Breeds no ill,

T *cresc.* toys; On - ly this Law - ful is; For our skill Breeds no ill,

B *cresc.* toys; On - ly this Law - ful is; For our skill Breeds no ill,

10

S But con - tent and plea - sure. In a morn - ing up we rise, Ere Au - ror - a's

A But con - tent and plea - sure. In a morn - ing up we rise, Ere Au - ror - a's

T But con - tent and plea - sure. In a morn - ing up we rise, Ere Au - ror - a's

B But con - tent and plea - sure. In a morn - ing up we rise, Ere Au - ror - a's

13

S peep - ing; Drink a cup to wash our eyes, Leave the slug - gard sleep - ing,

A peep - ing; Drink a cup to wash our eyes, Leave the slug - gard sleep - ing,

T peep - ing; Drink a cup to wash our eyes, Leave the slug - gard sleep - ing,

B peep - ing; Drink a cup to wash our eyes, Leave the slug - gard sleep - ing,

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S *p* Then we go To and fro With our knacks At our backs *cresc.*

A *p* Then we go To and fro With our knacks At our backs *cresc.*

T *p* Then we go To and fro With our knacks At our *cresc.*

B *p* Then we go To and fro With our knacks At our *cresc.*

18

S To such streams As the Thames, *f* If we have the leis - ure. *p*

A To such streams _____ As the Thames, *f* If we have the leis - ure. *p*

T backs To such streams As the Thames, *f* If we have the leis - ure. *p*

B backs To such streams As the Thames, *f* If we have the leis - ure. *p*

21

S *f* We have gen - tles in a horn, _____ We have paste and worms too; We can

A *f* We have gen - tles in a horn, We have paste and worms too; We can

T *f* We have gen - tles in a horn, We have paste and worms too; We can

B *f* We have gen - tles in a horn, _____ We have paste and worms too; We can

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23

S watch both night and morn, Suf - fer rain and storms too; None do here Use to swear:

A watch both night and morn, Suf - fer rain and storms too; None do here Use to swear:

T watch both night and morn, Suf - fer rain and storms too; None do here Use to

B watch both night and morn, Suf - fer rain and storms too; None do here Use to

26

S *cresc.* Oaths do fray Fish a - way; We sit still And watch our quill: *f*

A *cresc.* Oaths do fray Fish a - way; We sit still And watch our quill: *f*

T *cresc.* swear: Oaths do fray Fish a - way; We sit still Watch our quill: *f*

B *cresc.* swear: Oaths do fray Fish a - way; We sit still Watch our quill: *f*

29

S *p* Fish - ers must not wran - gle. Or we some - times pass an *p*

A *p* Fish - ers must not wran - gle. Or we some - times pass an *p*

T *p* Fish - ers must not wran - gle. Or we some - times pass an *p*

B *p* Fish - ers must not wran - gle. Or we some - times pass an *p*

legato

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32

S hour _____ Un - der a green wil - low, That de -

A hour _____ Un - der a green _____ wil - low, That de -

T hour _____ Un - der a green wil - low, That de -

B hour _____ Un - der a green _____ wil - low, That de -

35

S fends us from a shower, Mak - ing earth our pil - low; Where _____

A fends us from a shower, _____ Mak - ing earth our pil - low; Where _____

T fends us from a shower, _____ Mak - ing earth our pil - low; Where _____

B fends us from a shower, _____ Mak - ing earth our pil - low; Where _____

39

S we may Think and pray *cresc.* Be - fore _____ death _____ Stops our breath; *f* Oth - er

A we may Think and pray _____ *cresc.* Be - fore _____ death Stops our breath; _____ *f* Oth - er

T we may Think and pray _____ *cresc.* Be - fore _____ death Stops our breath; *f* Oth - er

B we may Think and pray _____ *cresc.* Be - fore _____ death Stops our breath; *f* Oth - er

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43

S joys Are but toys, And to be la - ment - ed.

A joys — Are but toys, — And to be la - ment - ed.

T joys Are but toys, And to be la - ment - ed.

B joys Are but toys, — And to be la - ment - ed.

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(1911)

O the gallant Fisher's life,
It is the best of any!
'T is full of pleasure, void of strife,
And 't is beloved by many;
Other joys
Are but toys;
Only this
Lawful is;
For our skill
Breeds no ill,
But content and pleasure.

In a morning up we rise,
Ere Aurora's peeping;
Drink a cup to wash our eyes,
Leave the sluggard sleeping,
Then we go
To and fro
With our knacks
At our backs
To such streams
As the Thames,
If we have the leisure.

We have gentles in a horn,
We have paste and worms too;
We can watch both night and morn,
Suffer rain and storms too;
None do here
Use to swear:
Oaths do fray
Fish away;
We sit still,
And watch our quill:
Fishers must not wrangle.

Or we sometimes pass an hour
Under a green willow,
That defends us from a shower,
Making earth our pillow;
Where we may
Think and pray,
Before death
Stops our breath;
Other joys
Are but toys,
And to be lamented.

John Chalkhill (fl. 1600)

(gentles are a type of red worm)

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