

Aspiration

text based on The Way of the Bodhisattva by
Shantideva

for double chorus

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Just as all the Buddhas of the past
Have brought forth the awakened mind
Just so, I will apply and train myself.
To those who need protection, I would give protection
For those who need a guide, I would be their guide
Let me be a boat, a raft, a bridge
For those who want to cross the ocean of pain.

Just as all the Buddhas of the past
Embraced the spirit of awakening
May I be an island for those who long for land
May I be a lamp for those who long for light
May I be the wishing jewel
May I be the universal healing
May I be the tree of miracles
For everything that lives.

Just as all the Buddhas of the past
Have brought forth the awakened mind
Just so, for the benefit of beings
I will walk, step by step,
In the Bodhisattva path.

Aspiration

from The Way of the Bodhisattva

words & music by Nell Clowder

words adapted from Shantideva

Larghetto

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It features four systems of vocal parts, each with Soprano, Alto, Tenor, and Bass staves. The lyrics are: "Just as all the Bud-dhas of the past have brought forth the a-wak-ened brought forth the a-wak-ened mind Bud - dhas just so I will ap - ply". The score includes various musical notations such as rests, triplets, and slurs. The lyrics are placed below the corresponding vocal staves.

Aspiration - 2

12

S1 and train train and train my self. To those who need pro-tec-tion

A1 and train train and train my self. To those who need pro-tec-tion

T1 and train my self. I would give pro-tec-tion.

B1 and train my - self. I would give pro - tec - tion.

S2 ply and train my self. For

A2 ply and train my self. For

T2 ply and train my self.

B2 ply and train my - self.

19

S1 I would be a

A1 Be a boat,

T1 Let me be a boat a

B1 Let me be a boat

S2 those who need a guide their guide. Be a boat

A2 those who need a guide their guide. Be a boat

T2 I would be their guide. Let me be a boat

B2 I would be their guide. Let me be a boat a

Aspiration - 3

24

S1 boat, a raft, a bridge a boat, a raft, a bridge for those who want to

A1 a bridge. let me be a bridge a bridge for those who want to

T1 boat, a raft, a bridge. Let me be a raft a bridge for those who want to

B1 a raft, a bridge. Let me be a boat let me be a bridge for those who want to

S2 Let me be a bridge for those who want to

A2 Let me be a bridge a bridge for those who want to

T2 Let me be a raft let bridge for those who want to

B2 boat, a raft, a bridge. Let me be a boat let me be a bridge for those who want to

29

S1 cross the o - cean cross the o - cean of pain. Just as all the Bud-dhas of the

A1 cross cross the o - cean cross the o - cean of pain.

T1 cross cross cross the o - cean of pain. Just as all the Bud-dhas of the past

B1 cross cross cross the o - cean of pain.

S2 cross the o - cean cross the o - cean of pain.

A2 cross cross the o - cean cross the o - cean of pain.

T2 cross to cross the o - cean of pain.

B2 cross to cross the o - cean of pain.

Aspiration - 4

34

S1 past of a wak-en-ing

A1 Just as all the Bud-dhas of the past em-braced the spir-it of a

T1 em-braced the spir-it of a

B1 Just as all the Bud-dahs of the past of a wak-en-ing

S2 May I be an is-land for those who long for land. May I be a lamp for those

A2 May I be an is-land for those who long for land. May I be a lamp for those

T2 May I be an is-land for those who long for land. May I be a lamp for those

B2 May I be an is-land for those who long for land. May I be a lamp for those

40

S1 for those who long for light. May I be the wish-ing jewel May I be the wish-ing jewel

A1 wak-en-ing who long for light. May I be the wish-ing jew-el May I be the

T1 wak-en-ing who long for light. May I be the wish-ing jew-el May I

B1 for those who long for light. May I be the wish-ing jew-el may I be

S2 for those who long for light. May I be the wish-ing jew-el

A2 for those who long for light. May I be the wish-ing jew-el

T2 for those who long for light. May I be the

B2 for those who long for light. May I be I will be may I be I will

Aspiration - 5

46

S1
 — May I be the wish-ing jew - el. — May I be the un - i - ver - sal heal - ing

A1
 wish ing jew - el May I be the jewel. May I be the un - i - ver - sal heal - ing —

T1
 be the wish ing jew - el be the wish - ing jewel. May — I be the un - i - ver - sal —

B1
 I will be the wish - ing jew - el be the jewel. May I be I will

S2
 May I be the wish - ing jew - el. — May I

A2
 — May I be the wish - ing jew - el.

T2
 wish - ing jew - el be the wish - ing jew - el.

B2
 be may I be I will be be the jewel. May I be I will

51

S1
 may I be the un - i - ver - sal heal - ing may I be the u - ni - ver - sal heal - ing.

A1
 — may I be the un - i - ver - sal heal - ing the un - i ver - sal heal - ing.

T1
 heal - ing may I be the un - i - ver - sal heal - ing be the un - i - ver - sal heal - ing.

B1
 be — the heal - ing may I be I will be the un - i - ver - sal heal - ing

S2
 be the un - i - ver - sal heal - ing may I be the un - i - ver - sal heal - ing. —

A2
 May I be the un - i - ver - sal heal - ing — may I be the un - i - ver - sal heal - ing.

T2
 May I be the un - i - ver - sal heal - ing be the un - i - ver - sal heal - ing.

B2
 be may I be I will be may I be I will be the heal - ing. —

Aspiration - 6

55

S1 May I be the tree of mir - a - cles, be the tree of mir - a - cles,

A1 May i be the tree of mir - a - cles, be the tree of mir - a - cles,

T1 May I be the tree of mir - a - cles, be the tree of mir - a - cles,

B1 May I be the tree of mir - a - cles I will

S2 be the tree of mir-a-cles, be the tree be the

A2 be the tree of mir-a-cles, be the tree

T2 be the tree of mir-a-cles, be the tree

B2 may I be the tree of mir - a - cles I will

59

S1 be the tree of mir-a-cles, be the tree the tree of mir - a - cles for ev'-ry-thing that lives.

A1 be the tree of mir-a-cles, be the tree the tree of mir - a - cles for ev'-ry-thing that lives.

T1 be the tree of mir-a-cles, be the tree the tree of mir - a - cles that

B1 be the tree of mir-a-cles I will be the tree of mir-a-cles be the tree that

S2 tree of mir - a - cles for ev'-ry-thing that lives.

A2 the tree of mir - a - cles for ev'-ry-thing that lives.

T2 the tree that

B2 be the tree of mir-a-cles I will be the tree of mir-a-cles be the tree that

Aspiration - 7

64

S1
Bud - dha
Bud-dhas of the past

A1
Just as all the Bud-dhas of the past

T1
lives.
have brought

B1
lives.
Bud - dhas Bud - dhas Bud - - - dhas

S2
Bud - dha
have brought

A2
Just as all the Bud-dhas of the past
have brought

T2
lives.
Bud - - - dhas

B2
lives.
Bud - dhas Bud - dhas Bud - - - dhas

72

S1
a-wak-ened mind just so for the be-ne-fit of be - ings I will

A1
a-wak-ened mind just so for the be-ne-fit of be - ings I

T1
forth the a-wak - ened mind, just so, just so be-ne-fit of be - ings I

B1
Bud - dhas just so just so just so I

S2
forth the a - wak - ened mind just so be-ne-fit of be - ings I

A2
forth the a - wak - ened mind just so be-ne-fit of be - ings I

T2
Bud - dhas just so just so be-ne-fit of be - ings I

B2
Bud - dahs just so just so just so I

Aspiration - 8

79

S1
walk _____ step by step _____ step by step Ah _____

A1
_____ will walk _____ step by step step by step step by step step by step step by step in the Bod-dhi-sat-va

T1
I _____ will walk I will walk step by step step by step step by step step by step step by step in the

B1
I will walk I will walk I will walk I will walk step by step step by step step by step step by step step by step step by step in the Bod-dhi sat-va

S2
I will walk _____ step by step step by step Ah _____

A2
_____ I will walk _____ step by step step by step step by step step by step in the Bod-dhi-sat-va

T2
_____ I will walk I will walk step by step step by step step by step step by step in the

B2
I will walk I will walk I will walk I will walk step by step step by step step by step step by step step by step step by step in the

85

S1
Ah _____ Bod-dhi - sat - va path Ah _____ Bod-dhi - sat - va _____ path. _____

A1
path in the Bod-dhi-sat-va path _____ in the Bod - dhi - sat - va path. _____

T1
Bod-dhi sat - va path _____ in the Bod-dhi - sat - va path in the Bod - dhi - sat - va path. _____

B1
path step by step in the Bod-dhi-sat-va path I will walk in the Bod-dhi-sat-va path in the Bod-dhi sat va path. _____

S2
Ah _____ Bod-dhi-sat-va path Ah _____ Bod - dhi - sat - va path. _____

A2
path in the Bod-dhi-sat-va path _____ in the Bod - dhi - sat - va path. _____

T2
Bod-dhi - sat - va path _____ in the Bod-dhi - sat - va path in the Bod - dhi - sat - va path. _____

B2
Bod-dhi - sat - va path step by step in the Bod-dhi - sat - va path in the Bod-dhi-sat-va path in the Bod-dhi sat va path. _____