

# LILY MONROE

from APPALACHIAN LOVE SONGS

WOMEN'S REFLECTIONS ON LOVE, LOSS, AND STRENGTH



SSA(A), VIOLIN and PIANO

a traditional folk song adapted by

# LINDA TUTAS HAUGEN



ephraim bay publishing

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## APPALACHIAN LOVE SONGS

for

SSA(A), Violin and Piano

adapted and arranged by

# LINDA TUTAS HAUGEN

Appalachian Love Songs was commissioned in 2017-18 by a Consortium of American Choral Programs, the Appalachian Folk Songs Women's Choir Commissioning Consortium,

Nana Wolfe-Hill, Wingate University, coordinator.

Lily Monroe was made possible by The North Carolina Governor's School East and West Choral Music Ensembles, a Whole Movement Commissioning Consortium Member, Gwen McLeod Hall, Stuart Chapman Hill, David H. Connell, and Alexander Lloyd Blake, conductors.

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### Lily Monroe

Performance Notes: In the vocal part, alternate pitches are provided, which may be substituted depending on range, accessibility and various levels of vocal development. Otherwise, the larger, primary note is to be sung.

#### **Program Notes**

The ballad *Lily Monroe*, is also known as *Jackaroe*, *Jack Munro*, or *Jack Went A-Sailing*. The earliest form of *Jack Monroe* appeared in the Bodleian Library at the University of Oxford around 1800. Cecil Sharp and Maud Karpeles collected *20 variants* of this song in Appalachia between 1908-18, some of which had 17 verses. There are several melodies associated with these collections. This setting is based on a less common tune collected by Alan Lomax, and similar to a melody collected in Kentucky by Howard Brockway and Loraine Wyman in 1916. Also included in the left hand melody of the piano introduction of this setting, is a more common tune used later in the century. In the refrain, "Lay the lily o, O lay the lily o," the lily flower symbolizes purity.

This text is unusual because unlike so many old narratives, the woman is not passively living in response to being a victim or controlled by others in their stories. (Jackie Fraser left for war because Lily's father had threatened to throw each of them into a dungeon unless they parted.) Lily Monroe is strong, proactive and courageous, and re-examines the notions of gender and heroism. Alan Lomax writes about this song: "To a mountain singer's fancy, this British ballad might conjure up any war in history that had been important in her life, from the American Revolution to World War II."

Two interesting facts related to this piece are: 1) there was a whole category of female warrior ballads that first appeared in the 1600's which were popular throughout the early 1700's and survived through folklore and songs to the present; and 2) there were documented histories of women soldiers in Great Britain and Europe who fought bravely, some who reached high levels of command and received military pensions as early as the 1700s and 1800s.

#### Text:

There was a wealthy merchant, In London town did dwell. He had a lovely daughter, The truth to you I'll tell. Refrain: Lay the lily o, O lay the lily o.

Her suitors they were plenty, And men of high degree, Yet none but Jackie Fraser Her true love e're could be.

Her Jack, he went a-sailing With trouble on his mind. A-leaving of his country And his darling girl behind.

She went down to a tailor And dressed in men's array, And to the war department She quickly went that day.

"Before you come on board sir, Your name I'd like to know." She smiled in all her count'nance, They call me Jackaroe. "Your waist is slim and slender, Your fingers they are small, Your face it is too tender To brave a cannon ball."

"I know my waist is slender, My fingers they are small But it would not make me tremble To see ten thousand fall."

The drum began to beat, The fife began to play. Straight to the field of battle They all did march away.

The war soon being over, She hunted all around, Among the dead and wounded, Her darling boy she found.

She picked him up all in her arms And carried him to town, She sent for a doctor Who healed his bloody wounds. This couple they got married, In happiness they dwell, This story to their children So often they do tell.



Betsy Rutherford, known for authentic and powerful singing, 1944-91.

## LILY MONROE

### TRADITIONAL AMERICAN

## Arranged by LINDA TUTAS HAUGEN









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### **Linda Tutas Haugen**

Performed on four continents, Linda Tutas Haugen's music has been critically acclaimed as "music of character and genuine beauty." [Minneapolis Star Tribune.] Opera Today praised her opera, Pocahontas, as "superbly crafted," "engaging," and "beautiful and powerful." She has written for instrumental and vocal chamber ensembles, symphony orchestra, wind ensemble, solo voice, chorus, and opera. She has received national awards, fellowships and commissions from ASCAP, American Composers Forum, American Guild of Organists, Meet The Composer, National Endowment for the Arts, National Kidney Foundation, San Francisco Girls Chorus, and Virginia Arts Festival and Virginia Opera. Her choral music has been performed by high school, university and adult choirs throughout the U.S., in Europe, Asia and Australia.

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