

CM9738  
Life / Jacob Narverud  
SATB Voices divisi, *a cappella*  
Duration: 2:55



# Life



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Jacob Narverud

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Soprano  Alto 

Tenor  Bass 

**CARL FISCHER**  
Celebrating 150 Years

## Notes

Life has loveliness to sell,  
 All beautiful and splendid things,  
 Blue waves whitened on a cliff,  
 Soaring fire that sways and sings,  
 And children's faces looking up  
 Holding wonder in a cup.

Life has loveliness to sell,  
 Music like a curve of gold,  
 Scent of pine trees in the rain,  
 Eyes that love you, arms that hold,  
 And for your spirit's still delight,  
 Holy thoughts that star the night.

Spend all you have for loveliness,  
 Buy it and never count the cost;  
 For one white singing hour of peace  
 Count many a year of strife well lost,  
 And for a breath of ecstasy  
 Give all you have been, or could be.

“Barter” from *Love Song* (1918) by Sara Teasdale

### About the Author

Sara Teasdale (1884-1933) was an American poet whose short, personal lyrics are noted for their classical simplicity and quiet intensity. Teasdale was born in St. Louis, Missouri and traveled to Chicago as a young woman, where she grew acquainted with Harriet Monroe and the literary circle around Poetry. Teasdale wrote seven books of poetry in her lifetime and received public admiration for her well-crafted lyrical poetry which centered on a woman's changing perspectives of beauty, love, life, and death.

### About the Composer

Jacob Narverud (b. 1986) is an American composer, arranger, and conductor. A native Kansan, Jacob is the Founder/Artistic Director of the Tallgrass Chamber Choir, a professional ensemble of musicians from across the Great Plains. Dr. Narverud is a frequent guest lecturer at universities and conferences as well as an active guest conductor/clinician for choral festivals and all-state choirs across the United States. Many of his compositions are publisher best sellers and are performed worldwide by choirs of all levels.

**Website:** [jnarverud.com](http://jnarverud.com)

**YouTube & Spotify:** [jacobnarverud](https://www.youtube.com/jacobnarverud)

# Life

for SATB Voices divisi, *a cappella*

SARA TEASDALE

(1884–1933)

JACOB NARVERUD

With joy ♩ = 120 poco a poco accel.

*p* cresc. poco a poco; stagger breathe to m. 11

Soprano

Life, life, life, life, life, life,

Alto

Life, life, life, life, life, life,

Tenor

Life, life, life, life, life, life,

Bass

Life, life, life, life, life, life,

Piano  
(for rehearsal only)

With joy ♩ = 120 poco a poco accel.

6

life, life, life!

life, life, life!

life, life, life!

life, life, life!

life, life, life!

Rousing  $\text{♩} = 76$

12

*f* hearty *mf*

Life has, — life — has... Life has, — life — has... —

*f* hearty *mf*

Life has, — life — has... Life has, — life — has... —

Rousing  $\text{♩} = 76$

16

*mp* *mf*

Life, — Life has, — life — has... —

*mp* *mf*

Life, — Life has, — life — has... —

*mf* crisp and exciting

Life has — love - li - ness — to sell, — All

*mf* crisp and exciting

Life has — love - li - ness — to sell, — All

20

*mp* Life, \_\_\_\_\_ *mf* Life has, \_\_\_ life \_\_\_ has...  
*mp* Life, \_\_\_\_\_ *mf* Life has, \_\_\_ life \_\_\_ has...  
 beau-ti - ful \_\_\_ and splen - did things, \_\_\_\_\_  
 beau-ti - ful \_\_\_ and splen - did things, \_\_\_\_\_

24

*mp* Life, \_\_\_\_\_ *mp* Life, \_\_\_\_\_  
*mp* Life, \_\_\_\_\_ *mp* Life, \_\_\_\_\_  
 blue \_ waves whi-tened \_\_\_ on a cliff, \_ soar - ing fire \_ that sways and sings: \_  
 blue \_ waves whi-tened \_\_\_ on a cliff, \_ soar - ing fire \_ that sways and sings: \_

28

*f* Life has, — life — has... *mf* Life has, — life — has...

*f* Life has, — life — has... *mf* Life has, — life — has...

*mf* life! — Life, — and

*mf* life! — Life, — and

32

*f* And child-ren's fa - ces look - ing up, — up, — up, — up, — up, — up, — up, — up,

*f* And child-ren's fa - ces look - ing up, — up, — up, — up, — up, — up, — up, — up,

*f* child - ren's fa - ces: up, up, up, up, up, up, up, up, up, up,

*f* child - ren's fa - ces: up, up, up, up, up, up, up, up, up, up,

44

45 *crisp and exciting*

Life has love - li - ness to sell,  
*crisp and exciting*

Life has love - li - ness to sell,  
*mp* *mf*

has... Life, Life has, life

has... Life, Life has, life

48

mu - sic like a curve of gold,

mu - sic like a curve of gold,  
*mp* *mf*

has... Life, Life has, life

has... Life, Life has, life

52

scent of pine — trees — in the rain, — eyes that love — you, arms

scent of pine — trees — in the rain, — eyes that love — you, arms

has... Life, Life,

has... Life, Life,

56

that hold: — life. Life,

that hold: — life. Life,

Life has, — life — has... Life has, — life —

Life has, — life — has... Life has, — life —

60

and for your spir - it's light light light light

and for your spir - it's light light light light

has... And for your spir - it's still de - light, light, light,

has... And for your spir - it's still de - light, light, light,

64

light, light, light, light, light, light, Ho - ly thoughts, the

light, light, light, light, light, light, Ho - ly thoughts, the

light, light, light, light, Ho - ly thoughts that star the

light, light, light, light, Ho - ly thoughts that star the

67 *mp*

night, night, night, night, night, night, night, night, night, night, night, night,

*mp*

night, night, night, night, night, night, night, night, night, night, night, night,

*mp*

night, night, night, night, night, night, night, — night, night, night.

*mp*

night, night, night, night, night, night, — night, night, night.

70 *f*

Life has, — life has... Life has, — life has...

*f*

Life has, — life has... Life has, — life has...

*mf*

Life! — Life! — Spend

*mf*

Life! — Life! — Spend

## Soaring

74

*ff*  
Spend all you have for love - li - ness, —

*ff*  
Spend all you have for love - li - ness, —

*ff*  
all you have for love - li - ness and

*ff*  
all you have for love - li - ness and

**Soaring**

78

and nev - er count the cost, — for one white

and nev - er count the cost, — for one white

nev - er count the cost, — for one white

nev - er count the cost, — for one white



**91** Passionately  $\text{♩} = 60$ 

for a breath of ec - sta - sy give

for a breath of ec - sta - sy give

for a breath of ec - sta - sy give

for a breath of ec - sta - sy give

**Passionately**  $\text{♩} = 60$

This section contains four staves of music. The first two staves are vocal lines with lyrics. The third staff is a piano accompaniment in the treble clef, and the fourth is in the bass clef. The music is in a key with three flats and a 3/4 time signature. A large red watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page.

**molto rall.**

95 *f*  $\text{3}$  *mf* *mp*

all you have been, or could be...

*f*  $\text{3}$  *mf* *mp*

all you have been, or could be...

*f* *mf* *mp*

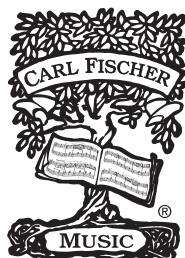
all you have been, or could be...

*f* *mf* *mp*

all you have been, or could be...

This section contains four staves of music. The first two staves are vocal lines with lyrics. The third staff is a piano accompaniment in the treble clef, and the fourth is in the bass clef. The music is in a key with three flats and a 3/4 time signature. A large red watermark is overlaid diagonally across the page.

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