

Songs for the People

Let me make the songs for the people,
Songs for the old and young;
Songs to stir like a battle-cry
Wherever they are sung.

Not for the clashing of sabres,
For carnage nor for strife;
But songs to thrill the hearts of all
With more abundant life.

Let me make the songs for the weary,
Amid life's fever and fret,
Till hearts shall relax their tension,
And careworn brows forget.

Let me sing for little children,
Before their footsteps stray,
I would sing for the poor and aged,
When shadows dim their sight;
Of the bright and restful mansions,
Where there shall be no night.

Our world, so worn and weary,
Needs music, pure and strong,
To hush the jangle and discords
Of sorrow, pain, and wrong.

Music to soothe all its sorrow,
Till war and crime shall cease;
And the hearts of all grown tender
Surround the world with peace.

—Frances Ellen Watkins Harper (1825–1911),
alt. Brooke Joyce

Brooke Joyce's music has been described as "vividly pictorial" (San Francisco Chronicle) and "exceptionally gripping" (Los Angeles Times) and has been performed by soloists and ensembles around the world, including the Indianapolis Symphony, the Cincinnati Symphony, the St. Petersburg Chamber Philharmonic, the Brentano Quartet, the Nouvel Ensemble Moderne, the Nash Ensemble, and tenor James Gilchrist. He is the recipient of the Joseph Bearns Prize, the Wayne Peterson Prize, the Darius Milhaud Award, and many citations from the National Federation of Music Clubs and ASCAP. Brooke is the Composer-in-Residence at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, past chair of the Iowa Composers Forum, and a founding faculty member of the International Music Festival of the Adriatic.

Brooke Joyce (b. 1973)

For biographical information visit:
www.ecspublishing.com

Please inform the composer of all performances
[brookejoyce.com/about/contact]

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Songs for the People

for SATB Chorus (divisi) and Organ

Frances E. W. Harper
(1825–1911)

Brooke Joyce
(ASCAP)

Boldly (♩ = 80) *unis. f*

Soprano Alto
Let me make the songs _____ for the peo-ple,

Tenor Bass
Let me make the songs _____ for the peo-ple,

Boldly (♩ = 80) *mf*

Organ

3
songs for the old and young; songs ³ to

3
songs for the old and young; songs ³ to

5

mf *poco rit.* *mp*

stir _____ like a bat-tle-cry _____

stir _____ like a bat-tle-cry _____

wher - ev - er they are sung. _____

wher - ev - er they are sung. _____

poco rit.

p

8 *a tempo*

a tempo

RH

11

(RH) Add *cresc.* LH *mf*

13

Add *f*

15 (♩ = ♩)

S A *unis. f*

T B *unis. f*

Not for the clash-ing of

Not for the clash-ing of

mf

18

sa - bres, _____ for car - nage nor for

sa - bres, _____ for car - nage nor for

21

strife; _____ but

strife; _____ but

24

musical score for measures 24-26. It features a vocal melody in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "songs to thrill the hearts of all with more a - bun - dant". The piano accompaniment consists of a steady eighth-note bass line in the left hand and a melody of eighth and sixteenth notes in the right hand.

songs to thrill the hearts of all with more a - bun - dant

songs to thrill the hearts of all with more a - bun - dant

27 (♩ = ♪)

musical score for measures 27-29. Measures 27 and 28 are whole rests for both vocal and piano parts, with the lyrics "life." written below. Measure 29 begins with a new vocal melody in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The key signature changes to C major, and the time signature remains 4/4. The tempo/meter marking "(♩ = ♪)" is present. The piano accompaniment features a more active melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

life.

life.

30 *mf*

Let me make the songs _____ for the wea - ry, _____

mf

Let me make the songs _____ for the wea - ry, _____

mp

32

a - mid life's fe - ver and fret,

a - mid life's fe - ver and fret,

8

34 *unis.*
till hearts shall re - lax their ten-sion —

unis.
till hearts shall re - lax their ten-sion —

37 *mp*
and care - worn brows — for - get, for - get,

mp
and care - worn brows for - get, for -

41

for - get for - get.

get, for - get, for - get, for - get.

[graduated release on beat 4]

p

45

"On" beat 4*

"On" beat 3*

"On" beat 1*

48

lyrically

*Play as "on the beat" grace notes where indicated.

52

56

Tenderly
unis. p

S Let me sing for lit-tle

A Let me sing _____ for _

Tenderly

59

chil - dren, be - fore their foot - steps stray. _____

lit - tle chil - dren, _____ be - fore their foot - steps stray. _____

62

S *unis. p* when,

A *unis. p* when,

T *mp* I would sing, *unis. p* a - ged, when sha-dows dim their

B *mp* I would sing for the poor and *p* a - ged, when,

p

65

sight; *mp* of the bright and rest - ful

sight; *mp* of the bright and rest -

sight; *mp* of the bright and

sight; *unis. mp* of the

p

68

man - sions, where there shall be no

ful - man - sions, where there shall be no

8 rest - ful - man - sions, where there shall be no

bright and rest - ful - man - sions, where there shall be no

Boldly

71 *f*

night.

f

night.

unis. f

8 night.

f

night.

Boldly

night.

night.

8 night.

night.

74

77

S A

T B

unis. f

Our

unis. f

Our

80

world, so worn and wea - ry, —

world, so worn and wea - ry, —

mf

83

needs mu - sic, pure _____ and

needs mu - sic, pure _____ and

Musical score for measures 83-85. The vocal parts (treble and bass clefs) sing the lyrics "needs mu - sic, pure _____ and". The piano accompaniment (grand staff) features a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

86

strong, to hush the jan - gle and dis - cords _____

strong, to hush the jan - gle and dis - cords _____

Musical score for measures 86-88. The vocal parts sing the lyrics "strong, to hush the jan - gle and dis - cords _____". The piano accompaniment continues with a similar rhythmic pattern. Dynamic markings *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *f* (forte) are present. Measure 87 includes a four-measure rest for the vocal parts.

of sor-row, — pain, and wrong.

of sor-row, — pain, and wrong.

Musical score for measures 90-92. The score is written for voice and piano. The voice part has two staves (treble and bass clef). The piano part has two staves (treble and bass clef). The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "of sor-row, — pain, and wrong." The piano accompaniment features a melodic line in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand. A large, faint watermark "Copyrighted Material" is visible across the page.

Musical score for measures 93-94. The score is written for piano. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The time signature is 4/4. The piano accompaniment features a melodic line in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand. A large, faint watermark "Copyrighted Material" is visible across the page.

f Mu - sic to soothe all its sor - row, — till

f Mu - sic to soothe all its sor - row, — till

Musical score for measures 95-96. The score is written for voice and piano. The voice part has two staves (treble and bass clef). The piano part has two staves (treble and bass clef). The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Mu - sic to soothe all its sor - row, — till". The piano accompaniment features a melodic line in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand. A large, faint watermark "Copyrighted Material" is visible across the page.

97

war and crime shall cease;—

war and crime shall cease;—

100 **Reflectively** *mp*

S and the hearts of all grown ten-der sur-round the world,

A and the hearts of all grown ten-der sur-round the world,

T and the hearts of all grown ten-der sur-round

B and the hearts of all grown ten-der sur-round the

Reflectively

104

sur - round the world

sur - round the world

the world, sur - round the world

world, sur - round the world

p

This block contains the musical notation for measures 104 through 106. It features four vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "sur - round the world" (104), "sur - round the world" (105), and "the world, sur - round the world" (106). The piano part includes a dynamic marking of *p* (piano) in measure 105.

107

p

with peace.

p

with peace.

p

with peace.

p

with peace.

Solo

mp

p

This block contains the musical notation for measures 107 through 110. It features four vocal staves and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "with peace." (107), "with peace." (108), "with peace." (109), and "with peace." (110). The piano part includes dynamic markings of *p* (piano) in measures 107, 108, and 109, and *mp* (mezzo-piano) in measure 110. A "Solo" marking is present above the piano staff in measure 110.