

Two-Part

Let Me Make the Songs for the People

\$2.25

Christopher Alexander

Let Me Make
the Songs for
the People

Two-Part, a cappella

cantareworks

THE MUSIC OF CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

About the Work

This proud anthem will help your chorus achieve the ability to perform a cappella works at your next concert. With an extended range and differing rhythmic passages, this work will be a rewarding challenge to perform. The song begins with parallel verse-like stanzas then diverting to a new harmonic that builds toward the climactic end.

*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 men
With more abundant life.*

*Let me make the songs for the weary,
And 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,
Sweet anthems of love and duty
To float o'er life's highway.*

*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,
Not just 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 men grown tender
Girdle the world with peace.*

— Frances Ellen Watkins Harper (1825-1922)

About the Composer



Mr. Christopher Alexander is an award-winning composer and arranger from St. Joseph, Missouri. He received his Bachelor of Science in Vocal Music Education degree from Missouri Western State University in 2009. A self-taught pianist, his compositions and arrangements ranging from instrumental works to vocal solo and choral literature. Mr. Alexander has been commissioned numerous times by singing groups and church choirs within the northwest Missouri and northeast Kansas regions. He is also active in musical theatre productions as a music director and pianist. His works have been published with GIA Music Publications and Hal Leonard.

In 2016, he was awarded the St. Joseph Allied Arts Council Mayor's Award for Artist of the Year. In 2022, he was inducted into the New Generation Singers Hall of Fame.

Mr. Alexander currently serves as the pianist and primary arranger for The New Generation Singers, a Christian singing youth group based in St. Joseph, Missouri. He is a member of NAFME, ACDA, MCDA, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity.

He is available for commissions and conducting events on request.

To find more vocal and instrumental works
of Christopher Alexander, visit

www.cantareworks.com

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LET ME MAKE THE SONGS FOR THE PEOPLE

Two-Part, a cappella

Words by
FRANCES ELLEN WATKINS HARPER
(1825-1922), alt.

Music by
CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

A *Allegretto moderato* (♩ = 100)
mf

PART I
PART II

Let me make the songs for the peo - ple Songs for the old and young;
5 songs to stir like a bat - tle - cry Wher - e - ver they are sung;
9 Not for the clash ing of sa - bres, For car - riage for for strife; But
13 songs to thrill the hearts of men With more a - bun - dant life.

B

Let me make the songs for the wea - ry, A - mid life's fe - ver and fret, Till
21 hearts shall re - lax their ten - sion, and care - worn brows for - get.
25 Let me sing for lit - tle chil - dren, Be - fore their foot steps stray, Sweet
29 an - thems of lov and du - ty, To float o'er life's high - way. I would

mp legato