

15/2930H

Performance/Accompaniment CD (99/2960H)

\$1.95

Legacy

Z. Randall Stroope

TBB
Edition

Also available:
SATB (15/2929H)

Distinguished
Text
by
James Weldon
Johnson

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James Weldon (William) Johnson was born in Jacksonville, Florida, on June 17, 1871. He graduated from Atlanta University (Bachelor of Arts) in 1894, and he became a teacher, poet, songwriter, and very successful civil rights activist. Johnson wrote “Fifty Years” (the text used in this composition) to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation (1863–1913).

The **Emancipation Proclamation** was issued by President Abraham Lincoln on January 1, 1863, during the American Civil War. It proclaimed the freedom of more than three million slaves. In 1865, the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution took effect, which finalized the abolition of slavery in the United States.

“**Legacy**” was composed to commemorate the 150th anniversary (2013) of the Emancipation Proclamation, and also to celebrate the freedom—both the reality for some, and the struggle to achieve it for others—of people everywhere. To pass on to future generations a legacy of freedom to live in peace and the opportunity to follow life’s dreams is one of the greatest gifts that a civilization could pass on to future generations. May it be so.

Z. Randall Stroope is one of the most active choral conductors and composers working today, with recent conducting engagements at the Berliner Dom, Canterbury Cathedral, Vatican, American School in Singapore, Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (Washington, D.C.), Carnegie Hall, and other venues. In addition, he is the Artistic Director of two European summer music festivals. He has conducted more than 35 all-state choirs in the United States. Dr. Stroope’s principal composition teachers were Normand Lockwood and Cecil Effinger, both students of Nadia Boulanger, the famous French teacher (and student of Gabriel Fauré). Recordings of Stroope’s music can be heard on his web site (www.zrstroope.com) or on his CDs: *Passages: The Choral Music of Z. Randall Stroope*, Vols. I, II, and III.

for Robert Stovall, friend and colleague

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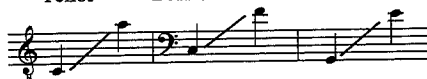
Legacy

TBB Chorus and Piano*

James Weldon Johnson (1871–1938),
with additional material by Z. R. S.

Z. Randall Stroope

Ranges: Tenor Baritone Bass



1 Boldly and confidently ♩ = ca. 60



4 T *mp*

This land is ours by right of birth. This land is

BB *mp*

mp

Musical notation for the vocal parts and piano accompaniment. It consists of three staves. The top staff is for Tenor (T), the middle for Baritone (BB), and the bottom for Piano. The piano part is in 3/4 time and features a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The dynamic marking is *mp*. The lyrics are: "This land is ours by right of birth. This land is".

Duration: approx. 4:05

*Also available: SATB (15/2929H); Performance/Accompaniment CD (99/2960H).

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LT

4

7

ours by right of toil; We helped to turn its vir-gin

mf

10

earth, Our sweat is in its fruit-ful soil. To gain these

mp *f*

13

fruits that have been earned, To hold these fields that have been

16

won, Our arms have strained, our backs have burned, Bent bare be -

19 *mf* 2 Slightly faster, with urgency

neath a ruth-less sun. And

mf

Slightly faster, with urgency

23

for our foes let this suf-fice— We've bought a fi-nal son-ship

LH LH

26

here, And we have more than paid the price...

LH LH

29

That for which mil-lions prayed, mil-lions sighed, *f* tens of thou-sands fought, — *f* tens of

f

32

thou-sands fought. fought. tens of thou-sands fought. —

f

3

55 **Maestoso** *ff*

For — which they died, hold clo - ser, hold —

ff

Detailed description: This block contains the first system of musical notation, measures 55 to 57. It features a vocal line in 4/4 time with a treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The tempo is marked 'Maestoso' and the dynamic is 'ff'. The lyrics are 'For — which they died, hold clo - ser, hold —'. A dashed line above the vocal line indicates a phrase that spans across measures 55, 56, and 57.

Maestoso *ff* *sonorous* **Maestoso**

Detailed description: This block contains the piano accompaniment for measures 55 to 57. It is written in 4/4 time with a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The tempo is 'Maestoso' and the dynamic is 'ff'. The word 'sonorous' is written above the piano part. The accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines in both hands.

58

strong - er; Born — up in sac - ri - fice,

Detailed description: This block contains the second system of musical notation, measures 58 to 60. It features a vocal line in 4/4 time with a treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are 'strong - er; Born — up in sac - ri - fice,'. A dashed line above the vocal line indicates a phrase that spans across measures 58, 59, and 60.

Detailed description: This block contains the piano accompaniment for measures 58 to 60. It is written in 4/4 time with a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The accompaniment features a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes in the right hand and chords in the left hand.

61 (5)

raised in faith a - bove. — Through — dark - est

Detailed description: This block contains the third system of musical notation, measures 61 to 63. It features a vocal line in 4/4 time with a treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are 'raised in faith a - bove. — Through — dark - est'. A circled number '5' is written above the first measure. A dashed line above the vocal line indicates a phrase that spans across measures 61, 62, and 63.

Detailed description: This block contains the piano accompaniment for measures 61 to 63. It is written in 4/4 time with a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The accompaniment features a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes in the right hand and chords in the left hand.

64

hours shine bright - er, burn long - er.

67

Ours is the land, ours is the

70

land, prom-ise of cour-age, hope, and love.

molto rit.