

Commissioned by the Greater Seattle Choral Consortium
for the 2017 Seattle Sings Choral Festival

The Gift to Sing

James Weldon Johnson (1871-1938)

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Tutti *Andante con moto* $\text{♩}=72$ *legato* *mp*
1. Some - times the mist o - ver - hangs my path,

Pno. *Andante con moto* $\text{♩}=72$ *legato*
mf *mp*

S
5 *mf* *3* *3*
— And black-en-ing clouds black-en-ing clouds a - bout me

A

T
mf *3*

B

mf

9 *rit.* *mp* *A tempo* *mf*
cling; But, oh, I have a ma-gic way But

cling; But, oh, I have a ma-gic way But

rit. *A tempo*
dim. *mp* *mf*

14 *rit.* . . . *A tempo*

S
A
T
B

oh, I have a ma-gic way to turn the gloom to cheer-ful day— I soft-ly sing.

sub p

rit. . . . *A tempo*

mp

19 *verse 2 mp*

And if the way grows dar-ker still, Sha-dowed by

mp

p *cresc.*

23 *mf* *brightening*

Sor-row, Sha-dowed by Sor-row's som-ber wing, With

Sor-row's som-ber wing— *brightening*

Sor-row, Sha-dowed by Sor-rows's som-ber wing, With

mf

27 *f* *poco marcato*

S
A
T
B

glad de - fi - ance in my throat, With glad de - fi - ance in my throat, With

31 *legato* *mf* *rit.*

glad de - fi - ance in my throat I pierce the dark - ness with a note, And sing, and

mf *rit.*

Red. *

35 *A tempo* *cresc.* *f* *legato*

sing. And sing, and sing, and sing and sing. I pierce the dark-ness with a

cresc.

mf *cresc.* *f*

A tempo

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S bring. No nights are dark, no days are long, While in my heart there swells a song, No

A bring. While in my heart there swells a song,

T bring. No nights are dark, no days are long, While in my heart there swells a song, No

B bring. While in my heart there swells a song,

f

52

mf nights are dark, no days are long, *p* While in my heart there swells a song, *mp* And I can

mf no days are long, *p* While in my heart there swells a song, *mp* And I can

mf nights are dark, *p* While in my heart there swells a song, *mp* And I can

mf no days are long, *p* While in my heart there swells a song, *mp* And I can

rit.

mf *mp* *p* *mp*

Red. *

A tempo

S
sing. And I can sing, and I can sing. While

A
sing. And I can sing, and I can sing. While

T
sing. I can sing. While

B
sing. And I can sing, and I can sing. While

A tempo

mf *f*

Ped. *

60

mp *p* rit.

S
in my heart, while in my heart, while

A
in my heart, while in my heart, while

T
in my heart, while in my heart, while

B
in my heart, while in my heart, while

mf *dim.* *mp*

Ped. * *Ped.* *

64 **poco meno mosso** **A tempo**

S in my heart there lives a song, I will sing! I will

A in my heart there lives a song, I will sing! I will

T in my heart there lives a song, I will sing! I will

B in my heart there lives a song, I will sing!

poco meno mosso **A tempo**

mf

for perusal

67 **div. ff** **rall.**

S sing! I will sing!

A sing! I will sing!

T sing! I will sing!

B I will sing!

rall.

f *ff* *fff*