From Dusk to Dawn
for Women’s Chorus and Piano

Poem by Martha Greene Eads
Adapted from Mighty Be Our Powers
by Leymah Gbowee

From Dusk to Dawn tells the story of the Liberian women protesting the civil war which engulfed their country until 2003. Led by Leymah Gbowee (Winner of the 2011 Nobel Peace Prize), the women prayed, marched, sang and resolutely waited for peace. Their “uniforms” were white T-shirts.

At times, the women doubted their strength. But, with hands joined together, they became peace mothers. Ultimately, they proclaimed, “Mighty be our powers!”

The musical language for this choral setting is rhythmic, energetic and powerful. The voices sing, “Gather, gather,” in repeated 8th notes, as the calls for protest gain in strength. Tremolo chords in the accompaniment bring increased energy. The final section is emphatic, with accented chords in the voices and piano to express “Mighty women!”

Moderate tempo \( \frac{\}= 100 \)

Solo quasi recitative

“Gather the women and pray for peace,” a voice has called me

Note setting and format by Gwyneth Walker Music Productions

Permission for the use of Mighty Be Our Powers in adaptation has graciously been given by Leymah Gbowee.

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Solo

in the night. Could this be a summons from God for me? I

(mf)

Could this be a summoned from God for me? I

^\sum (F)

A Quickly, with energy \( \frac{3}{4} = 126 \)

Quickly, with energy \( \frac{3}{4} = 126 \)

Alto tutti

hushed, with growing excitement

Gather, gather, gather,

\( \frac{3}{4} \)

\( \frac{3}{4} \)

\( \frac{3}{4} \)

Sopr. tutti

In

gather, gather, gather, gather, gather, gather,
mosques on Fridays, after prayers on

gather, gather,

Sat - ur - days in the mar - ket streets, on

gather, gather,

Sun - days run - ning from church to church, we call,

we call,
Women, a-wake for peace!

Gather, gather, gather, gather, gather the women for peace.

with pedal
In white t-shirts and white hair-ties,

dawn to dusk in the heat,

march, we march, with weary hearts and weary feet.
Gather, gather, gather the women for
peace.
peace.

O Lord, we give our time to you. You will not let us
Our banners fade in the noon-time sun, pray in vain. Our banners fade in the noon-time sun, their

calls for peace run in the rain. calls for peace run in the rain.
dawn to dusk in the heat we sit, we wait, we pray, for hours. We
watch the rain turn our fields to mud. Might-y be our
Might-y be our
powers? Yes! Might-y be our
powers? Yes! Might-y be our
powers, sisters praying singing, marching...
powers, sisters praying singing, marching...

Watch the rain turn our fields to mud. Might-y be our
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With our hands joined beside us, we are peace.

Mother. The victory is ours!

Gather the women.

Faster, with energy $j = 132$
gather the women,
gather the women,
gather, gather, gather,
gather, gather, gather,
gather. From dawn to dusk in the heat we sit, we
poco rit.

Slightly slower $\dot{=}$ 108, determined
wait, we pray, for hours. With our hands joined be-
wait, we pray, for hours. With our hands joined be-
side us, we are peace moth-ers. Might-y
side us, we are peace moth-ers. Might-y
be our powers!
be our powers!
accel.
103
S

Gath-er, gath-er, gath-er, gath-er, gath-er,

A

106
S

Gath-er the wom-en for peace.

A

Gath-er the wom-en for peace. Gath-er the wom-en.

109
S

Might-y, might-y, might-y wom-en!

A

Might-y, might-y, might-y wom-en!

rit. to end