

Let the Life I've Lived Speak for Me

for SATB Chorus unaccompanied

Traditional
G. Walker, alt.

Gwyneth Walker

The message of this memorial song is simple and honest. When my days are done ("when I come to the end of the road"), let my actions, my friendships, my struggles, and my caring speak for me. There is no need for embellishment or praise. The truth, a plain-yet-beautiful truth, will suffice.

The musical arrangement presents a similarly direct language. Harmonies, such as the final cadence, are open and transparent. The unadorned melody will speak for itself.

Moderate tempo ♩ = 100

p peacefully

poco rit. *a tempo*

p *mf*

Soprano

Ah, ah, ah. Let the

p *mf*

Alto

Ah, ah, ah. Let the

p *mf*

Tenor

Ah, ah, ah. Let the

p *mf*

Bass

Ah. Let the

Moderate tempo ♩ = 100

p *mf*

Piano
(for rehearsal only)

5

S life I've lived _____ speak for me. _____ Let the

A life I've lived _____ speak for me. Let the

T life I've lived _____ speak for me. Let the

B life I've lived _____ speak for me. Let the

9

S life I've lived _____ speak for me. _____ When I

A life I've lived _____ speak for me.

T life I've lived _____ speak for me.

B life I've lived _____ speak for me.

13

S
come to the end of the road, and I lay down my heav - y load, let the

A
Hmm _____ and I lay down my heav - y load, let the

T
8
Hmm _____ and I lay down my heav - y load, let the

B
Hmm _____ and I lay down my heav - y load, let the

17

S
life I've lived _____ speak for me. _____

A
life I've lived _____ speak _____ for _____ me.

T
8
life I've lived _____ speak _____ for _____ me.

B
life I've lived _____ speak _____ for _____ me.

21 *p peacefully* *poco rit.* *a tempo*

S Ah, ah, ah.

A Ah, ah, ah.

T Ah, ah, ah.

B Ah. Let the

p *poco rit.* *mf* *a tempo*

25 *mf*

S Let the friends I've made, let them speak for me.

A Let the friends I've made, let them speak for me.

T Let the friends I've made, let them speak for me.

B friends I've made speak for me. Let the

29

S
Let the friends I've made, — let them speak for me.

A
Let the friends I've made, — let them speak for me.

T
Let the friends I've made, — let them speak for me. When I

B
friends I've made — speak for me. — When I

33

S
Hmm — and I lay down my heav - y load,

A
Hmm — and I lay down my heav - y load,

T
come to the end of the road, and I lay down my heav - y load,

B
come to the end of the road, and I lay down my heav - y load, let the

37

S
let the friends I've made, let them speak for me. Ah. _____

A
let the friends I've made, let them speak for me. Ah. _____

T
let the friends I've made, let them speak for me.

B
friends I've made _____ speak for me.

41 *(mf)*

S
Lay down your bur - den, and rest with the set - ting sun.

A
Lay down your bur - den, and rest with the set - ting sun.

T
(mf)

B
Ah, _____ ah, _____ sun. _____

45 *p* *grad. cresc.* *mf*

S
All the beau - ty of your life will shine when your day is done. Let the

A
All the beau - ty of your life will shine when your day is done. Let the

T
p *grad. cresc.* *mf*

B
All the beau - ty of your life will shine when your day is done. Let the

49

S
A

love I've shared _____ speak for me. _____ Let the

T
B

love I've shared _____ speak_ for_ me Let the

53

S
A

love I've shared _____ speak_ for me. _____ Let the

T
B

love I've shared _____ speak_ for_ me.

57

S

love that I've tried to share, _____ all this

A

Hmm _____ and the bur - dens I've strug - gled to bear, all this

T

8
Hmm _____ Ah, _____ all this

B

8
Hmm _____ Ah, _____ all this

mf

61 *f* *rit.* *Slowly*
unis. *p*

S life of joy and care speak for me. Let the

A life of joy and care speak for me.

T life of joy and care speak for me.

B life of joy and care speak for me.

f *rit.* *Slowly*
p

65 *rit.* *Slowly*

S life I've lived speak for me.

A *p* speak for me.

T *unis. p* Hmm speak for me.

B *unis. p* Hmm speak for me.

rit.

