

Let the Life I've Lived Speak for Me

for SSAA 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 *poco rit.* *a tempo*

p peacefully

Soprano 1
Ah, — ah, ah.

Soprano 2
Ah, ah, ah.

Alto 1
Ah, ah, ah. — Let the *mf*

Alto 2
Ah, ah, ah.

Moderate tempo ♩ = 100 *poco rit.* *a tempo*

Piano
(for rehearsal only) *p* *mf*

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5

mf

S1 I've lived speak for me.

mf

S2 I've lived speak for me.

A1 life I've lived speak for me. Let the

(p)

A2 Hmm speak for me.

mf

9

S1 I've lived speak for me.

S2 I've lived speak for me. When I

A1 life I've lived speak for me. When I

p

A2 Hmm speak for me.

mf

13

S1 and I lay down my heav - y load,

S2 come to the end of the road, and I lay down my heav - y load,

A1 come to the end of the road, and I lay down my heav - y load, let the

A2 *p* Hmm *mf* and I lay down my heav - y load.

17

S1 I've lived speak for me.

S2 I've lived speak for me.

A1 life I've lived speak for me.

A2 *p* Hmm *mf* speak for me.

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

S1 Ah, ah, ah.

S2 Ah, ah, ah.

A1 Ah, ah, ah. Let the

A2 Ah, ah, ah.

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

25 *mf*

S1 Let the friends I've made, let them speak for me.

S2 Let the friends I've made, let them speak for me.

A1 friends I've made speak for me. Let the

A2 Let the friends I've made, let them speak for me.

mf

29

S1 Let the friends I've made, let them speak for me.

S2 Let the friends I've made, let them speak for me. When I

A1 friends I've made _____ speak_ for me. _____ When I

A2 Let the friends I've made, let them speak for me.

33

S1 _____ and I lay down my heav - y load,

S2 _____ come to the end of the road, and I lay down my heav - y load,

A1 _____ come to the end of the road, and I lay down my heav - y load, let the

A2 _____ and I lay down my heav - y load,

Hum _____

37

S1
let the friends I've made, let them speak for me. Ah. _____

S2
let the friends I've made, let them speak for me. Ah. _____

A1
friends I've made _____ speak for me. _____

A2
let the friends I've made, let them speak for me.

41

S1
Lay down your bur-den, and rest with the set-ting sun.

S2
Lay down your bur-den, and rest with the set-ting sun.

A1
Ah, _____ sun. _____

A2
Ah, _____ sun. _____

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

S1 All the beau - ty of your life will shine when your day is done. Let the

S2 All the beau - ty of your life will shine when your day is done. Let the

A1 All the beau - ty of your life will shine when your day is done. Let the

A2 All the beau - ty of your life will shine when your day is done. Let the

p *grad. cresc.* *mf*

49

S1 love I've shared _____ speak_ for_ me. Let the

S2 love I've shared _____ speak_ for_ me. Let the

A1 love I've shared _____ speak for me. _____ Let the

A2 love I've shared _____ speak for me. Let the

53

S1 love I've shared _____ speak for me. Let the

S2 love I've shared _____ speak for me. Let the

A1 love I've shared _____ speak for me. _____

A2 love I've shared _____ speak for me. _____

57

S1 love that I've tried to share, and all this

S2 love that I've tried to share, and all this

A1 *p* Hmm _____ and the bur-dens I've strug-gled to bear, all this

A2 *p* Hmm _____ and the bur-dens I've strug-gled to bear, all this

61 *f* *rit.* **Slowly**

S1 *f* *>* life of joy and care speak for me. *rit.* **Slowly**

S2 *f* *>* life of joy and care speak for me. *rit.* **Slowly**

A1 *f* *>* life of joy and care speak for me. *rit.* **Slowly** *p* Let the

A2 *f* *>* life of joy and care speak for me. *rit.* **Slowly** *p*

65 *p* *rit.* **Slowly**

S1 *p* I've lived speak for me. *rit.* **Slowly**

S2 *p* I've lived speak for me. *rit.* **Slowly**

A1 life I've lived speak for me. *rit.* **Slowly**

A2 *Hmm* speak for me. *rit.* **Slowly**