

UMH
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Lift Every Voice and Sing

WORDS: James Weldon Johnson, 1921

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1. Lift every voice and sing,
till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies
of liberty;

let our rejoicing rise
high as the listening skies,
let it resound
loud as the rolling sea.

Sing a song
full of the faith
that the dark past
has taught us;

sing a song
full of the hope
that the present
has brought us;

facing the rising sun
of our new day begun,
let us march on
till victory is won.

2. Stony the road we trod,
bitter the chastening rod,
felt in the days when
hope unborn had died;

yet with a steady beat,
have not our weary feet
come to the place
for which our
fathers sighed?

We have come
over a way
that with tears
has been watered;

we have come,
treading our path
thru the blood
of the slaughtered,

out from the gloomy past,
till now we stand at last
where the white gleam
of our bright star is cast.

3. God of our weary years,
God of our silent tears,
thou who hast brought us
thus far on the way;

thou who hast
by thy might
led us into the light,
keep us forever
in the path, we pray.

Lest our feet
stray from the
places, our God,
where we met thee;

lest our hearts
drunk with the wine
of the world,
we forget thee;

shadowed beneath
thy hand,
may we forever stand,
true to our God,
true to our native land.