



Waiting For the Light of Morning

Words and Music by **STEVE PARSONS**

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About the Composer

Steve's music is energetic and fun. Students will be captivated by his heroic film-score like music. He has a wealth of experience composing outside of educational music that brings an exciting freshness to his pieces.

Waiting For the Light of Morning

An image that always comes to my mind when going through difficult times is searching for light in the darkness. It doesn't matter if the issues are personal, community-wide, or global, we've all had moments where signs of hope seem dim and cloudy, hidden behind a dark veil. While full solutions may be far beyond our own individual grasp, I've found it important to reach out to those in my "sphere" for comfort in the long night's vigil. This piece was written as a call to never stop searching for truth, justice, and the promised light of morning.

Like many Celtic-inspired pieces, it's important to maintain a degree of lyricism to the melodic lines while still keeping the rhythmic feel. Irish *Gaelic* is a very musical language, so I've included some passages that use traditional inspirational sayings in the original *Gaelic*. While a notoriously tricky dialect to master, here's a basic guide to pronunciation:

Ní neart go cur le chéile: "There is no strength without unity."

Ní = Nee

Neart = Nyart (This is a one syllable word with the emphasis on "art," so the N must elide into the Y.)

Go = Guh

Cur = u as in "gut"

Le = luh

Chéile = The "ch" is a broad consonant in Irish *Gaelic*, similar to the German "back ch," which is pronounced in the back of the mouth. For example, when saying the English word "lock," instead of closing the throat all the way on the K sound, allow some air to escape as if you're trying to say an H. Next, the "éi" is pronounced as if saying the English letter A. Finally, the "le" is pronounced with a short E vowel similar to the word "let."

Ná caill do chroí: "Don't lose heart."

Ná = Naw

Caill = kye-ul

Do = Duh

Chroí = The "ch" is another broad consonant as found above in "Chéile" while the "roí" is pronounced "ree."

Ar scáth a chéile a mhaireann na daoine: "In the shelter of each other, people survive."

Ar = "Err"

Scáth = "scawh"

a = short vowel, as in "cat"

chéile = as above

a = short vowel, as in "cat"

mhaireann = "wirr-en"

na = "nah"

daoine = "dee-neh"

If a Bohdrán isn't available it can be substituted with Concert Toms or Tambourine, just as long as careful balance with the singers is maintained.

Enjoy this call to unity and a sense of hope!

For Scott Sutton and Debbie Koyle

Waiting for the Light of Morning

for TBB Voices with Bodhrán Accompaniment

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Powerfully (♩ = 88)

Bodhrán

Tenor

Baritone Bass

f *fp* *mf*

Nee nyart guh kur leh kay - leh!

f *fp* *mf*

Naw kye - ul duh kree.

f *fp* *mf*

Air scaw a kay - leh,

Air scaw a kay - leh,

13 *f* *rit.* *mf*

mf *rit.*

a wir - renn na dee - neh.

mf

a wir - renn na dee - neh.

Driving Celtic feel (♩ = 68)

17 *f*

21 *mp*

Solo *mp*

Out there in our pre - sent dark-ness burns a faint and
We must learn to work to - geth-er, turn our gaze up -

24

Duet

dis-tant glow, see the em - bers get - ting bright-er,
on the skies. We can make a new be - gin - ning

27

grow - ing stron - ger as we go.
if we o - pen up our eyes.

31 *mf*

Solo mf

8 Trou-bled clouds of pain and sor-row hide the signs of not
Day-break draws for - ev - er near-er, and we do not

mp

8 Oo oo

mp

Oo oo

34

8 com-ing dawn, but the joy that waits to - mor-row
wait in vain: look now to the far ho - ri - zon

oo

oo

37

8 gives us strength to car ry on.
peace and hope are born a - gain!

oo ah

oo ah

41

f

Wait-ing for the light of morn-ing, — hold - ing fast a -

Wait-ing for the light of morn-ing, — hold - ing fast a -

44

gainst the night. We will see a new day dawn-ing, —

gainst the night. We will see a new day dawn-ing, —

47

1.

mov - ing ev - er toward the light.

mov - ing ev - er toward the light.

51

2. *mf*

mov - ing ev - er toward the light.

mov - ing ev - er toward the light.

53

Solo *f*

Ah, _____ ah! _____

f

Wait-ing on the light of morn-ing, hold - ing fast a - gainst the night.

f

Wait-ing on the light of morn-ing, hold - ing fast a - gainst the night.

57

We will see a new day dawn-ing, mov - ing ev - er toward the

We will see a new day dawn-ing, mov - ing ev - er toward the

61

mf

light, _____ mov - ing ev - er

mf

light, _____ mov - ing ev - er,

64 *sfz* *f*

toward the light.

ev - er toward the Naw kye-ul duh kree.

68 *ff* *fp cresc.*

Naw kye-ul duh kree. Nee nyart guh kur leh kay-leh!

kree. Nee nyart guh kur leh kay-leh!

72 *mf* *sfz*

Naw kye-ul duh kree. Nee nyart guh kur leh kay-leh!

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Powerfully (♩ = 88)

2

7

12

17 Driving Celtic feel (♩ = 68)

21

25

28

31

35

10

39

Musical staff 1: Treble clef, 6/8 time signature. Measures 39-42. Dynamic: *f*.

43

Musical staff 2: Treble clef, 6/8 time signature. Measures 43-46.

1.

Musical staff 3: Treble clef, 6/8 time signature. Measures 47-50. First ending.

2.

Musical staff 4: Treble clef, 6/8 time signature. Measures 51-54. Dynamic: *mf*.

55

Musical staff 5: Treble clef, 6/8 time signature. Measures 55-58.

59

Musical staff 6: Treble clef, 6/8 time signature. Measures 59-62. Dynamic: *mf*.

63

Musical staff 7: Treble clef, 6/8 time signature. Measures 63-66. Dynamic: *mf*, *sfz*, *f*.

67

Musical staff 8: Treble clef, 6/8 time signature. Measures 67-70. Dynamic: *ff*.

71

Musical staff 9: Treble clef, 6/8 time signature. Measures 71-74. Dynamic: *mf*, *sfz*.



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Waiting For the Light of Morning

An exciting Celtic-flavored *a cappella* original for TBB voices that encourages hope and unity. The optional Irish Bodhrán part enhances the driving energy and sense of determination, while conservative ranges help make this appropriate for most low voice ensembles.

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