

James DeMars

IRON and GRASS

for a cappella choir

**From the poetry of Carl Sandburg:*

Let the grass grow,
let the green grass grow,
let the grass grow
under the morning stars.

Mine eyes have seen six feet of dust
under the morning stars,
Mine eyes have seen the long, steel guns
under the morning stars.

Let the grass grow,
let the green grass grow,
let the grass grow
green grass covering all.

Now, drum Danny, drum Danny Drum.
Now, drum Danny, Danny Drum drum.

Mine eyes have seen lithe, little jackies
singing the songs of war,
Mine eyes have seen the iron shovels
digging the fields of war;
The shovel is brother to the gun.

Let the grass grow,
let the green grass grow,
at Gettysburg and Shiloh,
green grass covering all.
Shovel them under and let me work.
I am the grass,
I cover all.

**fragments from GRASS, OLD OSWATOMIE, DRUMNOTES and IRON (1914-1918)*

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IRON and GRASS

from the poetry of Carl Sandburg

A Cival War Memorial

for Dr. William Skoog and the Rhodes College Choir

James DeMars
2013

Carl Sandburg

$\text{♩} = 48$ Calm, peaceful

SOPRANO *mp*
Let the grass grow, _____ let the green grass grow, _____ Let the

ALTO *mp*
Let the grass grow, _____ let the green grass grow, _____ Let the

TENOR *mp*
Let the grass grow, _____ let the green grass grow, _____ Let the

BASS *mp*
let the grass grow Let the

6 **A** $\text{♩} = 56$ *Più mosso*

S. *mf*
grass grow _____ un - der the morn - ing star.

A. *mf*
grass grow _____ un - der the morn - ing stars. Mine eyes have seen the

T. *mf*
grass grow _____ un - der the morn - ing stars. Mine eyes have seen the

B. *mf*
grass grow _____ un - der the morn - ing star.

10

mf

S. un-der the morn-ing stars. Mine eyes have

A. long, steel guns un-der the morn-ing stars. Mine eyes have seen

T. long, steel guns un-der the morn-ing stars. Mine eyes have seen the long, steel

B. *mf* un-der the morn-ing stars. Mine eyes have seen the long, steel guns

15

p

S. seen six feet of dust, un-der the morn-ing stars.

A. *p* six feet of dust, un-der the morn-ing stars.

T. guns six feet of dust, un-der the morn-ing stars.

B. six feet of dust, un-der the morn-ing stars.

20

B $\text{♩} = 48$

mp *cresc.*

S. Let the grass grow, let the green grass grow,

A. *mp* *cresc.* Let the grass grow, let the green grass grow,

T. *p* *mp* *cresc.* let the grass grow, let green grass grow,

B. *p* *mp* *cresc.* the grass grow,

25

S. let the grass grow at Get-tys-burg and Shi - loh, green grass

A. let the grass grow at Get-tys-burg and Shi - loh, green grass

T. let the grass grow, at Get-tys-burg and Shi - loh green

B. let the grass grow, at Shi - loh,

29 **C** **Più mosso** $\text{♩} = 52$

S. co - ver - ing all. un - der the morn - ing star.

A. co - ver - ing all. un - der the morn - ing star.

T. co - vers all. un - der the morn - ing star.

B. co - vers all. un - der the morn - ing star. *mf* Now

34 *mf* *p*

S. Now drum Dan-ny, ah

A. *mf* Now, drum Dan-ny

T. *mf* *p* Now drum Dan-ny, ah

B. drum Dan-ny, drum Dan-ny Drum; now drum Dan-ny Dan-ny drum. Now

39

mf *p*

S. — Now drum Dan - ny, ah

A. drum Dan - ny Drum; now drum Dan - ny, Dan - ny Drum. — Now drum Dan - ny Drum; now

T. *mf* now, drum Dan - ny drum Dan - ny Drum; now drum Dan - ny, Dan - ny Drum

B. drum Dan - ny, drum Dan - ny Drum, now drum Dan - ny Drum.

43

D *mf*

S. — Now drum Dan - ny,

A. drum Dan - ny, Dan - ny Drum. — Now drum Dan - ny,

T. Mine eyes have seen the lithe lit - tle Jack - ies sing - ing the songs of war

B. Mine eyes have seen the lithe lit - tle Jack - ies sing - ing the songs of war

47

S. drum Dan - ny Drum, now drum Dan - ny, Dan - ny Drum. — Now

A. drum Dan - ny Drum, now drum Dan - ny, Dan - ny Drum. — Now

T. Mine eyes have seen the lithe lit - tle Jack - ies

B. Mine eyes have seen

51

S. drum Dan - ny, drum Dan - ny Drum, now drum Dan - ny, Dan - ny Drum__

A. drum Dan - ny, drum Dan - ny Drum, now drum Dan - ny, Dan - ny Drum__

T. ⁸ sing - ing the songs of war__ Mine eyes have seen the

B. sing - ing the songs of war__ Mine eyes have seen the

55

S. *cresc.* Mine eyes have seen the lithe lit - tle Jack - ies

A. *cresc.* Mine eyes have seen the lithe lit - tle Jack - ies

T. ⁸ i - ron sho - vels dig - ging the fiels of war. Now *cresc.*

B. i - ron sho - vels dig - ging the fiels of war. Now *cresc.*

59

S. sing - ing the songs of war__ Mine eyes have seen the

A. sing - ing the songs of war__ Mine eyes have seen the

T. ⁸ drum Dan - ny, drum Dan - ny Drum, now drum Dan - ny, Dan - ny Drum__

B. drum Dan - ny, drum Dan - ny Drum, now drum Dan - ny, Dan - ny Drum__

63

f E
♩ = 48

S. i - ron sho-vels the sho-vel is bro - ther to the gun,

A. i - ron sho-vels the sho-vel is bro - ther to the gun.

T. the sho-vel is bro - ther to the gun.

B. the sho vel is bro - ther to the gun.

68

mp *cresc.*

S. Let the grow, let the green grass grow,

A. Let the grass grow, let the green grass grow,

T. let the grass grow, let green grass grow,

B. *p* *mp* *cresc.* the grass grow,

74

S. let the grass grow at Get-tys-burg and Shi - loh, green grass

A. let the grass grow at Get-tys-burg and Shi - loh, green grass

T. let the grass grow, at Get-tys-burg and Shi - loh green

B. let the grass grow, at Shi - loh,

78 *mf*

S. *mf*
co - ver - ing all. and sho-vel them un - der_ sho-vel them un - der_

A. *mf*
co - ver - ing all. sho-vel them un - der_ sho-vel them

T. *mf*
co - vers all. ah, sho-vel them un - der_

B. *mf*
co - vers all. ah,

83 *p*

S. *p*
_ and let me work_ ah,

A. *mp*
un - der_ and let me work_ I am the grass,

T. *mp*
sho-vel them un - der and let me work. I am the grass,

B. *mp*
and let me work. I am the grass,

89 *mp* **F**

S. *mp*
I am the grass, I co - ver all.

A. *mp*
I co - ver all.

T. *mp*
I co - ver I co - ver all.

B. *mp*
I co - ver all.