

The River's Course

words by
Chinwe D. John

music by
Bernard Hughes

Allegretto $\text{♩} = 60$

Piano *mf*

The piano introduction consists of four measures in 2/2 time, featuring a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and a melody of eighth notes. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with half notes and chords.

5 *mf*

ALL Tell us _____ migh - ty Ni - ger The things you've seen.

Pno

This system contains measures 5 through 8. The vocal line (ALL) begins at measure 5 with the lyrics 'Tell us _____ migh - ty Ni - ger The things you've seen.' The piano accompaniment (Pno) continues the melody from the introduction. The key signature remains three flats, and the time signature is 2/2.

9

ALL Help us _____ to re - mem - ber What once had been, _

Pno

This system contains measures 9 through 13. The vocal line (ALL) continues with the lyrics 'Help us _____ to re - mem - ber What once had been, _'. The piano accompaniment (Pno) continues the melody. The key signature remains three flats, and the time signature is 2/2.

14 *mp*

ALL Be - fore the o - cean took a - way Our kings and queens, _____

Pno *mp*

This system contains measures 14 through 17. The vocal line (ALL) continues with the lyrics 'Be - fore the o - cean took a - way Our kings and queens, _____'. The piano accompaniment (Pno) continues the melody. The key signature remains three flats, and the time signature is 2/2.

18 *cresc.* *f*

ALL Be - fore the o - cean took a - way Our kings and queens.

Pno *cresc.* *f*

22 *mf*

Pno

26 *mf*

S.I&II Help us___ sing of lands___ Bathed bright with gold.

A. *mf* Help us___ sing of lands, of lands,___ Bathed bright with gold._____

Pno

30

S.I&II Of o - chre___ co - loured sands___ Of war - riors

A. Of o - chre___ co - loured sands, of sands,___ Of war - riors

Pno

34 *mp*

S.&II strong and bold. Ask the o - cean to res - tore Our dreams and

A. *mp*

strong and bold. Ask the o - cean to res - tore Our dreams and,

Pno *mp*

38 *cresc.*

S.&II hopes, Ask the o - cean to res - tore Our dreams and

A. *cresc.*

our dreams of, Ask the o - cean to res - tore Our dreams and

Pno *cresc.*

42 *f*

S.&II hopes.

A. *f*

hopes, and hopes,

Pno *f*

44 *f*

ALL *f*

The ri - ver an - swered in _____ res - ponse, This tale _____ has a win - ding course.

Pno *f*

48

ALL

Though tides can - not re - verse, The his - tories of _____ the past, _____

Pno

52 *mf cresc.* *f*

ALL *f*

Springs break out from rock, _____ And wa - ters do change path. _____

Pno *mf cresc.* *f*

56

ALL

Pno *mf* *f*

60 *mf*

S. I New boats u - pon the wa - ters What tales

S. II New boats u - pon the wa - ters What tales

A. New boats u - pon the wa - ters What tales

Pno *mf*

64

S. I will they weave? Young hands write the chap - ters,

S. II will they weave? Young hands write the chap - ters,

A. will they weave? Young hands write the chap - ters,

Pno

68 *mp*

S. I But old hands ne - ver leave. The oars - man bat - tle the waves of the past.

S. II But old hands ne - ver leave. The oars - man bat - tle the waves of the past.

A. But old hands ne - ver leave. The oars - man bat - tle the waves of the past.

Pno *mp*

72

S. I Help them migh - ty ri - ver, forge a way at

S. II Help them migh - ty ri - ver, forge a way at

A. Help them migh - ty ri - ver, forge a way at

Pno *mf cresc.*

8^{ba}]

76

S. I *f* last. The ri - ver an - swered in res - ponse,

S. II *f* last. The ri - ver an - swered in res - ponse,

A. *f* last. The ri - ver an - swered in res - ponse,

Pno *f*

8^{ba}]

80

S. I

This tale___ has a win - ding course. Though tides can - not re - verse, The

S. II

This tale___ has a win - ding course. Though tides can - not re - verse, The

A.

This tale___ has a win - ding course. Though tides can - not re - verse, The

Pno

84

S. I

his - tories of___ the past,___ Springs break out from rock,___ And

S. II

his - tories of___ the past,___ Springs break out from rock,___ And

A.

his - tories of___ the past,___ Springs break out from rock,___ And

Pno

88

S. I
wa - ters do change path.

S. II
wa - ters do change path.

A.
wa - ters do change path.

Pno

92

ff

S. I
The ri - ver an - swered in ____ res - ponse, This tale ____ has a win - ding course.

ff

S. II
The ri - ver an - swered in ____ res - ponse, This tale ____ has a win - ding course.

ff

A.
The ri - ver an - swered in ____ res - ponse, This tale ____ has a win - ding course.

Pno

96

S. I
Though tides can - not re - verse, The his - tories of ____ the past, ____

S. II
Though tides can - not re - verse, The his - tories of ____ the past, ____

A.
Though tides can - not re - verse, The his - tories of ____ the past, ____

Pno

100

S. I

Springs break out from rock, _____ And wa - ters do change path.

S. II

Springs break out from rock, _____ And wa - ters do change path.

A.

Springs break out from rock, _____ And wa - ters do change path.

Pno

104

S. I

Springs break out from rock, _____ And wa - ters do change

S. II

Springs break out from rock, _____ And wa - ters do change

A.

Springs break out from rock, _____ And wa - ters do change

Pno

108

S. I

S. II

A.

Pno

path.

path.

path.

This musical score page contains measures 108 through 111. It features four staves: Soprano I (S. I), Soprano II (S. II), Alto (A.), and Piano (Pno). The key signature is A major (three sharps). Measures 108 and 109 show the vocalists holding long notes with a slur and a 'path.' marking. The piano accompaniment in measures 108 and 109 consists of a steady eighth-note melody in the right hand and a bass line with octaves in the left hand. In measures 110 and 111, the vocalists have rests, and the piano part continues with a similar texture, ending with a final chord in measure 111.