



Convocation
— 2022 —

SONG BOOK



Welcome

to Convocation 2022: Imagination and Collective Liberation
for a Climate-Changed World, hosted by The BTS Center

The songs in this book have been collected and shared by Reggie Harris, this year's Convocation musician. This book is intended for use during Convocation 2022 only.

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In the Shelter

by REGGIE HARRIS

Chorus:

In the shelter of each other,
In the shelter of our lives
We are open, we are dreaming
We are hopeful, we are wise.

Many times the weight of the world crashes in
We feel angry and afraid
We start to lose sense of hope
our sense of direction.
The isolation we have learned
Will not bring much in return
If we truly cannot learn to live as one.

Many times the pain of the world crashes in.
We feel broken and betrayed.
We start to lose our sense of joy,
Our sense of connection.
And though our history remains
It's our actions we must change
If we hope to heal our planet
You know that we must stand!

In the shelter of each other,
In the shelter of our lives,
We are open, we are dreaming
We are hopeful, we are wise.

Reggie Harris
©1993 ASCAP

Listen: <https://youtu.be/GXhKojn8N6A>



On Solid Ground

by REGGIE HARRIS

Chorus:

We will not rest till the storm is over
We will not lay this burden down
We will keep each other strong
We will love and carry-on
Till we stand all together on solid ground.

Verse

It's been a long hard journey on a winding road
So many have gone before us and they carried a heavy load
But they went singin' as they made their way
Now we follow their footsteps as we work today.

Verse

I know that you're weary ... we all feel the pain
Sometimes the actions of the world will try your soul again
But I believe that a better day is comin' our way
That's why we're raising our voices as we work today.

Verse

All around there is hatred... all around us there's fear
Violence touches our lives and the message is clear
We mourn our martyrs... in our hearts they stay
As we sing "We Shall Overcome" and go on our way!

Words and Music by Reggie Harris

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Listen: <https://youtu.be/YyOb8eerHU4>



Love Is the Water

by PAT WICTOR

You say your heart's been turned to stone
You say you wanna be left alone
You say this world made you weep and moan
Well, let me tell you something that you know in your bones

Refrain:

Love is the water that wears down the rock
Love is the water that wears down the rock
Love is the power that won't be stopped
Love is the water that wears down the rock

You say your soul's like a dry riverbed
Stopped waiting for the water long ago, you said
You better pray all night for the rain instead
Love comes like a tidal wave, over your head

You say, waiting for love takes too long
It dulls a sharp mind, weakens the strong
Well, you may be right, but you may be wrong
Cause love can make a mountain come tumbling down
The river washes over every woman and man
Feet in the gravel, and mud in your hands
Nothing can stand against love's command
Every boulder turns into a grain of sand

Listen: https://youtu.be/JWt_M7Ee7lw



Earth Air Fire Water Elemental Chant

PAGAN / WICCAN CHANT

The earth, the air, the fire, the water
Return, return, return, return
The earth, the air, the fire, the water
Return, return, return, return
ae, ae, ae, ae, aio, aio, aio, aio
ae, ae, ae, ae, aio, aio, aio, aio

Listen: https://youtu.be/6RL_mgx-3L4



So Sang the River

by BILL STAINES

I am the Missouri and I travel on down
Across the Dakotas by the midwestern towns.
Oh, I water your farms with my silvery hand,
And forever I'll travel in the heart of the land.

I am the Ohio and my water is wide.
By the banks of Kentucky, I travel with pride.
From the old Allegheny forever I'll run,
And I'll carry your people in the light of the sun

Chorus

So sang the river as its waters glided low,
So sang the river, I've a long long way to go.
So Sang the River

I am the border, the old Rio Grande.
My waters they cut through the southwestern land.
From the deserts and badlands through the canyons so deep,
I'll stretch my green ribbon and I never will sleep.

I am the American and I carry the gold.
In the hills of California my story was told,
Of how men with the fever fell on me like rain,
And dug for my treasure 'til nothing remained.

I am the Hudson, the Merrimac, too,
The Snake and the Pecos, the Green and the Blue,
And my waters they run just as sure as a song,
And forever I'll sing if you let me live on.

So sang the river as its waters glided low,
So sang the river, I've a long, long way to go.

Songwriter: Bill Staines © BMG Rights Management

Listen: <https://youtu.be/D6QAaSfLgo4>



We Belong to The Earth

by MAGPIE

Chorus

We belong to the Earth
We all belong to the Earth
It's not that she belongs to us
It's we belong to her
It's we belong to her

A strand in the web are we
A strand in the web, I believe
To own it we cannot dare to dream
It's a web that we didn't weave
It's a web that we didn't weave

In sun and in wind and in rain
Is a seed of what will be
It awakens a power that grows down below
It courses through you and through me
It courses through you and through me

And when our spirits take flight
We lay our bodies down
Our ashes may be carried away on the wind
But return to the birthing ground
But return to the birthing ground

Listen: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9fWeYa3cCho>



Woyaya

by OSIBISA

We are going
heaven knows where we are going
But we know within

And we will get there
heaven knows how we will get there
But we know we will

It will be hard, we know
And the road will be muddy and rough
But we'll get there
heaven knows how we will get there
But we know we will

Woyaya, woyaya
Woyaya, woyaya

Listen: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dIGD763mwL4>



Swimming to the Other Side

By PAT HUMPHRIES

Chorus

We are living 'neath the great Big Dipper
We are washed by the very same rain
We are swimming in the stream together
Some in power and some in pain
We can worship this ground we walk on
Cherishing the beings that we live beside
Loving spirits will live forever
We're all swimming to the other side

I am alone and I am searching
hungering for answers in my time
I am balanced at the brink of wisdom
I'm impatient to receive a sign

I move forward with my senses open
Imperfection, it be my crime
In humility, I will listen
We're all swimming to the other side

On this journey through thoughts and feelings
Binding intuition, my head, my heart
I am gathering the tools together.
I'm preparing to do my part

All of those who have come before me
Band together and be my guide
Loving lessons that I will follow,
We're all swimming to the other side

When we get there we'll discover
All of the gifts we've been given to share
Have been with us since life's beginning
And we never noticed they were there

We can balance at the brink of wisdom
Never recognizing that we've arrived
Loving spirits will live together
We're all swimming to the other side

Listen: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zS0iaKbu9J4>



Wade in the Water

AFRICAN AMERICAN SPIRITUAL

Chorus

Wade in the water
Wade in the water, children
Wade in the water
God's gonna trouble the water!

Who were those children dressed in red?
God's gonna trouble the water!
Must be the ones that Moses led.
God's gonna trouble the water!

Who were those children dressed in White?
God's gonna trouble the water!
Must be the ones gettin' ready to fly.
God's gonna trouble the water!

Who were those children all dressed in Blue?
God's gonna trouble the water!
Must be the one's that made it through
God's gonna trouble the water!

Who were those children all dressed in Black?
God's gonna trouble the water
They must be the one's who are never going back.
God's gonna trouble the water

Chorus

Listen: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uNbmprpuq1QY&t=1s>



My Rainbow Race

by PETE SEEGER

One blue sky above us
One ocean lapping all our shores
One earth so green and round
Who could ask for more?
And because I love you
I'll give it one more try
To show my rainbow race
It's too soon to die

Some folks want to be like an ostrich
And bury their heads in the sand
Some hope for plastic dreams
to unclench those greedy hands

Some want to take the easy way
Poisons, bombs, they think we need 'em
Don't they know you can't kill all the unbelievers
There's no shortcut to freedom

Go tell, go tell all the little children!
Go tell mothers and fathers, too
Now's our last chance to learn to share
What's been given to me and you

One blue sky above us
One ocean lapping all our shores
One earth so green and brown
Who could ask for more
And because I love you
I'll give it one more try
To show my rainbow race
It's too soon to die

Listen: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xatpVjkOfFc>





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