

Anthem (Celebrating 20 Years Concert)

Poem by Charlotte Pomerantz

In the beginning there was singing,
In ev'ry corner of the earth.
Songs to ease the pain of dying,
Songs to celebrate a birth.

Human beings have always sung.

From the highest mountain tops,
To the riverbanks below,
Our most ancient forbears sang,
Lo, a million years ago.

Sing to celebrate the harvest,
Ripening fruit, and golden grain,
Sing of drought, disease and hunger.
Howling winds and pounding rain.

Ev'ryone was born to sing.

Little children move to music,
Clapping hands and dancing feet.
Tiny infants babble, babble,
Keeping time to ev'ry beat.

So let us sing, Chaloguy, [Hindi]
Let us sing, Davayte spoyom. [Russian]
Cantiamos, Let us sing. [Italian]
Danna nou ghani, [Arabic]
Let us sing, Chang guh ba. [Chinese]
Hebu kwimba, Let us sing. [Swahili]
Lasst uns singen, Let us sing. [German]

From the heights and banks below,

That is why we gather here,
To sing and cry and shout and cheer
Our beloved people's chorus
In its glorious twentieth year.