

Darkness Into Light

Sheena Phillips

SATB a cappella

Lyrics by anon. and Sheena Phillips

I came across the opening chant that this piece is based on through Gordon Franklin of Columbus State Community College. Something about its simple but strong harmonies, and the accompanying image of the earth's perpetual motion through space, hooked me and over the years I have written several pieces based on the chant. This one was written for Belsize Community Choir in London, to provide something other than Christmas fare for a winter concert.

duration c. 4:00

perusal score – not for rehearsal or performance

© copyright Sheena Phillips 2017

Darkness Into Light

The earth is turning,
Turning always round to morning,
And from morning round to night.

The year is turning,
Turning always round to darkness,
And from darkness round to light.

Anon. (first stanza) and Sheena Phillips

Darkness Into Light

based on a chant of unknown origin

Anon. and Sheena Phillips

Sheena Phillips

Moderato ♩ = 96 majestic, beautiful, unstoppable

S1

S2

A

T

B

mf

The earth is turn - ing, Turn - ing al - ways

6

S1

S2

A

T

B

mf

mf

The

round to morn - ing, And from morn - ing round to night.

darkness into light 2

11

S1

S2 *mf*
The earth is turn - ing,

A
earth is turn - ing, Turn - ing al - ways round to morn - ing,

T

B *mf*
The

A

17

S1 *mf (repeat f)*
And on our jour - ey round the

S2
Turn - ing al - ways round to morn - ing, And from morn - ing round to night.

A
And from morn - ing round to night. The earth is turn - ing,

T *mf (repeat f)*
And on our jour - ey round the

B
earth is turn - ing, Turn - ing al - ways round to morn - ing,

22

S1 sun, We greet the sea-sons one by one, Un - til our

S2 The earth is turn - ing, Turn-ing al - ways

A Turn-ing al - ways round to morn-ing, And from morn-ing

T sun, We greet the sea-sons one by one, Un - til our

B And from morn-ing round to night. The earth is

27

S1 time on earth is done. done. The *mf*

S2 round to morn-ing. (ing). The year is turn-ing, *mf*

A round to night. The (night). Turn-ing, *mf*

T time on earth is done. done

B turn - ing. (ing).

B

33

S1 year is turn - ing, Turn - ing al - ways round to dark - ness,

S2 Turn - ing al - ways round to dark - ness, And from dark - ness round to light.

A turn - ing through win - ter, Turn - ing, turn - ing through sum - mer,

T *mp* The year is turn - ing,

B *mp* The year is turn - ing,

38

S1 And from dark - ness round to light. The year is

S2 The year is turn - ing, Turn - ing al - ways

A Turn - ing, turn - ing through au - tumn, Turn - ing, turn - ing through

T Turn - ing al - ways round to dark - ness, And from dark - ness

B Turn - ing al - ways round to dark - ness, And from dark - ness

darkness into light 5

C

43

S1 turn - ing, Turn-ing through win - ter,

S2 round to dark-ness, And from dark-ness round to light. The

A spring, Turn-ing, turn - ing through win - ter, Turn-ing,

T round to light. Turn-ing al - ways round to dark-ness,

B round to light. The year is turn - ing,

mf

48

S1 Turn - ing, turn - ing through sum - mer, Turn - ing

S2 year is turn - ing, Turn - ing al - ways

A turn - ing through sum - mer, Turn - ing, turn - ing through

T And from dark - ness round to light. The year is

B Turn - ing al - ways round to dark - ness, And from dark - ness

52

S1 through au - tumn, Turn-ing, turn - ing through spring.

S2 round to dark-ness, And from dark-ness round to light.

A au - tumn, Turn-ing, turn - ing through spring.

T turn - ing, Turn - ing al - ways round to dark-ness.

B round to light. The year is turn - ing.

D

57 *p* *f* *p*

S1 Dark-ness, round to light! Dark-ness, round to

S2 Dark-ness, round to light! Dark-ness, round to

A Dark-ness, round to light! Dark-ness, round to

T Dark-ness, round to light! Dark-ness, round to

B Dark-ness, round to light! Dark-ness, round to

77

S1 *mf*
earth is turn-ing, The earth is

S2 *mf* *f*
turn-ing, The earth is turn-ing, The

A *mf*
is turn - - - ing, turn - - - ing

T *mf*
The earth is turn-ing, The earth *mf*

B
The earth is turn-ing, The earth

83

S1 *f*
turn-ing, The earth is turn-ing.

S2
earth is al - - - ways turn-ing.

A *f*
round, Turn - - - ing round to morn-ing.

T *f*
is turn-ing, The earth is turn-ing.

B *f*
is turn-ing, The earth is turn-ing.