

Mary Montgomery Koppel

Mother of Exiles

for SSAA voices



Lorelei
ensemble

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2017, ca. 3'30"

On January 29, 2017, Beth Willer reached out to ask if I would be interested in setting the inscription on the Statue of Liberty for Lorelei Ensemble. In America's current political and cultural climate, I can think of no poem more timely and timeless. I said "yes" immediately.

I aimed in my setting to convey the simple but powerful message in the comforting, nurturing tone of Emma Lazarus's original poem. Let us all remember these words, as striking and compelling now as they were back in 1883 when they were first heard and read—words that call us to empathy, charity, and openness.

M. M. K.

Mother of Exiles

Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!

excerpt from *The New Colossus*
Emma Lazarus (1849–1887)

Mother of Exiles

Emma Lazarus

Mary Montgomery Koppel

$\text{♩} = 40$

Soprano
Give me your tired,

Soprano
Give me your tired, Give me your

Alto
Give me your tired,

Alto
Give me your tired, your

6
S.
Give me your poor, your hud-dled mass - es

S.
poor, your hud-dled mass - es hud-dled

A.
Give me your poor, your hud-dled mass - es

A.
poor, your hud-dled mass - es

mp *p* *mf* *mp* *p* *mf* *mp* *mf* *mf* *mp* *mf*

3 3 3

11

S. yearn-ing to breathe free, — *ff*

S. mass - - es yearn-ing to breathe free, *ff*

A. your hud-dled mass - ses yearn-ing to breathe free, — *ff*

A. yearn-ing to breathe free, *ff*

16

S. the wretch-ed *mf*

S. the wretch-ed re - fuse *f* *mf*

A. the wretch-ed re - - fuse *f*

A. the wretch - ed re - - fuse *f*

20

S. *mp*
re - fuse of your teem - ming shore. Send these to

S.
of your teem - ing shore.

A. *mf*
teem - ing shore.

A. *mf*
of your shore.

25

S. *p* *mf*
me, Send these to

S. *mp*
the home-less, the temp-est tost to me,

A. *mp*
the home-less, the temp-est tost to me,

A. *p* *mf*
to me, to

29 *mp* *f*

S. me, _____ Send these to

S. *mf* the wretch-ed re-fuse your tired, your poor,

A. *mf* the wretch-ed re-fuse your tired, your poor,

A. me, _____

33 *f* *ff* *Solo mp*

S. me, _____

S. *f* the home-less, the temp-est - tost to me, *ff*

A. *f* the home-less, the temp-est - tost to me, *ff*

A. *f* Send _____ these, the temp-est - tost, to me, *ff* I lift my

38

Enter one by one
Repeat motive ad libitum

p *3* *3*

S. I lift my lamp I lift my lamp

Enter enter one by one
Repeat motive ad libitum

p

S. I lift my lamp I lift my lamp

Enter one by one
Repeat motive ad libitum

p *3* *3*

A. I lift my lamp I lift my lamp

All - enter one by one
Repeat motive ad libitum

p

A. lamp I lift my lamp I lift my lamp

39

Continue freely for 20-30 seconds

Sopranos together

mp *3*

S. be - side the

mp *3*

S. be - side the

Finish last motive

Finish last motive

40

S. gold - - - den door!

S. gold - - - den door!

A. **Together** *mp* be-side the gold - - - en door!

A. **Together** *mp* be - side the gold - en door! *div. ossia*

The image shows a musical score for four vocal parts: Soprano 1 (S.), Soprano 2 (S.), Alto 1 (A.), and Alto 2 (A.). The score is in common time (C) and begins at measure 40. The Soprano parts sing 'gold - - - den door!' with a long note on 'gold' and a half note on 'den'. The Alto parts sing 'be-side the gold - - - en door!' with a triplet of eighth notes on 'be-side' and a half note on 'en'. The Alto 2 part includes a 'div. ossia' section with a wavy line and a fermata. A large diagonal watermark 'FOR PERUSAL ONLY' is overlaid on the score.