

The Wellsprings

Dedicated to Johanna McBride

Beloved Midwife of Music A Chorus of Women, Canberra

THE CANTICLE OF NIGHT

A mother sings to her baby

Lay lulay

Lulay lulay

Threads of memory and dream

I'll spin for you

In night's black and silver mantle
we'll sound the round from death to birth

And when the shining young moon

lifts the old one high

lament will turn to lullaby

and hope will turn the night

A Chorus of Women

Lulay lulay

Lulay lulay

TURNING OUR EARS

Threads of memory and dream

we spin in the web

From The Wellsprings

we bring songs for children and Earth

Singing night to day

Death to birth

Lament to lulay

Sorrow to mirth

Calling fathers and mothers

sisters and brothers

to turn our ears

to the heartbeat of The Wellsprings

TUNING IN

Listening to that Earth drum

Tuning in to that spirit hum

Wellsprings rising

Hear the heartbeat drumming

Hear the rivers running

Hear the undercurrents beneath our feet

Listen to the flow

in the Great Below

Lift up above songs of love

INVOCATION

The Spirit of The Wellsprings never dies
Oh, Mother of the Songs of Life!
The heart drum of country
The hum The harmony

Kindly spirit!
Breathe through our music
Spirit strong!
Breathe through our song



Earth burns Will the cycles turn?
Come Wellspring spirit Rise in us
We are the drum
The hum The harmony

Kindly spirit!
Breathe through our music
Spirit strong!
Breathe through our song



Lament and laughter and lullaby
Songs of love Songs of life
Wellspring harmony Sweet mystery
You are the midwife moving death to rebirth

Singing lulay, lulay Lulay lulay
In the black and silver night
Before the light
Singing lay lulay lulay

Glenda Cloughley, 2023

The Canticle of Night, *A Passion for Peace*, 2015
The Wellsprings, originally for *The People's Passion* 2019

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