

Commissioned by James Bruce for his wife, Betty Bruce, for her birthday.
It honors her founding of and dedication to the S.P.A.R.K. reading and arts after school program
for the children of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.
Premiered in May, 2007, by the Canterbury Academy of the Vocal Arts Chorus
Judith Willoughby, artistic director.

Read 'Em, John (SSA Version)

Paul Caldwell and Sean Ivory

$\text{♩} = 130$

The musical score is arranged for Clap, Soprano, Alto, and Piano. It begins with a tempo marking of quarter note = 130. The first system shows the Clap part with a whole rest, and the vocal parts (Soprano and Alto) with whole rests. The piano accompaniment starts with a series of chords and a melodic line in the right hand, and a bass line in the left hand. The second system shows the vocal parts with lyrics. The Soprano part has the lyrics: "he brought the let - ters, put 'em down on the ta - ble. Trou-ble is we can't read ___ 'em." The Alto part has the lyrics: "he brought the let - ters, laid 'em down on the ta - ble. Duh trou-ble, we can't read ___ 'em." The piano accompaniment continues with a similar pattern of chords and a melodic line.

Clap

Soprano

Alto

Piano

6

Clap

S

A

Pno.

he brought the let - ters, put 'em down on the ta - ble. Trou-ble is we can't read ___ 'em.

he brought the let - ters, laid 'em down on the ta - ble. Duh trou-ble, we can't read ___ 'em.

**This is a promotional copy for perusal purposes only.
A certified score for rehearsal/performance is available from the arrangers.
Contact paulcaldwell@gmail.com.**

Do the right thing. Don't photocopy music without paying arrangers for their work.

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Read 'Em John

2
11

Clap 

S
11
Read 'em to us, John. Read 'em John, read 'em, John. Read 'em, John,

A
Read 'em to us, John. Read 'em, read 'em, John. Read 'em,

Pno. 

16

Clap 

S
16
read 'em, John. Read 'em, John, O John! Read 'em to us, John.

A
read 'em, John. Read 'em, John, John! Read 'em to us, John.

Pno. 

21

Clap 

S
21
Two by two, three, four, five, six, seven and eight.

A
One by one, three, four, five, six, seven and eight.

Pno. 

Read 'Em John

4

38

Clap

S



— us so the spi - rit could move through us. Now ya read the let - ter. It's —

A



— us so the spi - rit could move through us. Now ya read the let - ter. It's —

Pno.



42

Clap

S



— e - ven bet - ter. Read 'em to us, John!

A



— e - ven bet - ter. Read 'em to us, John! Read 'em, John,

Pno.



46

Clap

S



Read 'em, John. Read 'em, John. John,

A



read 'em, John. Read 'em, John, read 'em, John. Read 'em, John,

Pno.



50

Clap

S

A

Pno.

O John! Read 'em, John; it's the E - - man - ci - pa - tion Pro - cla - ma - tion.

read 'em, John! Read 'em, John; it's the E - - man - ci - pa - tion Pro - cla - ma - tion.

55

Clap

S

A

Pno.

Read 'em to us, John, Juh - Juh - John! Lin - coln's no - tion is like a po - tion.

Read 'em to us, John, Juh - Juh - John! Lin - coln's no - tion is like a po - tion.

59

Clap

S

A

Pno.

Read 'em to us, John! Oh John! Read 'em, John.

Read 'em to us, John! Read 'em, John, read 'em, John.

Read 'Em John

6
63

Clap

S

A

Pno.

Read 'em, John. John, O John!

Read 'em, John, read 'em, John. Read 'em, John, read 'em, John!

Detailed description: This system covers measures 6 to 63. The Clap part consists of a simple rhythmic pattern of quarter notes. The Soprano part has lyrics: "Read 'em, John. John, O John!". The Alto part has lyrics: "Read 'em, John, read 'em, John. Read 'em, John, read 'em, John!". The Piano part features a complex accompaniment with many accidentals and a steady eighth-note bass line.

67

Clap

S

A

Pno.

Read 'em, Oh read 'em, John, we gon-na read 'em, read 'em, read 'em and weep. We're

Read 'em, Oh read 'em, John, we gon-na read 'em, read 'em, read 'em and weep. We're

Detailed description: This system covers measures 67 to 71. The Clap part has a rhythmic pattern of quarter notes. The Soprano part has lyrics: "Read 'em, Oh read 'em, John, we gon-na read 'em, read 'em, read 'em and weep. We're". The Alto part has identical lyrics. The Piano part continues with a complex accompaniment, including some chromatic movement in the bass line.

71

Clap

S

A

Pno.

so ex-ci - ted we can't sleep. We gon-na read 'em, read 'em, read 'em, - John!

so ex-ci - ted we can't sleep. We gon-na read 'em, read 'em, read 'em, - John!

Detailed description: This system covers measures 71 to 75. The Clap part has a rhythmic pattern of quarter notes. The Soprano part has lyrics: "so ex-ci - ted we can't sleep. We gon-na read 'em, read 'em, read 'em, - John!". The Alto part has identical lyrics. The Piano part continues with a complex accompaniment, featuring some chromatic movement in the bass line.

Read 'Em John

8

84

Clap

S

O some-bo-dy teach us how tuh read 'em? We wan-na read 'em, 'cuz

A

teach us how? some-bo-dy teach us how tuh read 'em? We wan-na read 'em, 'cuz

Pno.

88

Clap

S

they bring free-dom. We have been kept in the dark, but now we

A

they bring free-dom. We have been kept in the dark, but now we

Pno.

92

Clap

S

have a spark! Teach us how duh read like the rab - bi.

A

have a spark! Teach us how duh read 'em, John.

Pno.

95

Clap

S

A

Pno.

Teach us how duh write like the pro - phets. Teach us how tuh

98

Clap

S

A

Pno.

read 'em, John! Read 'em! Read 'em! Read 'em! Read 'em!

102

Clap

S

A

Pno.

Read 'em! Read 'em. Read 'em to us, John!