

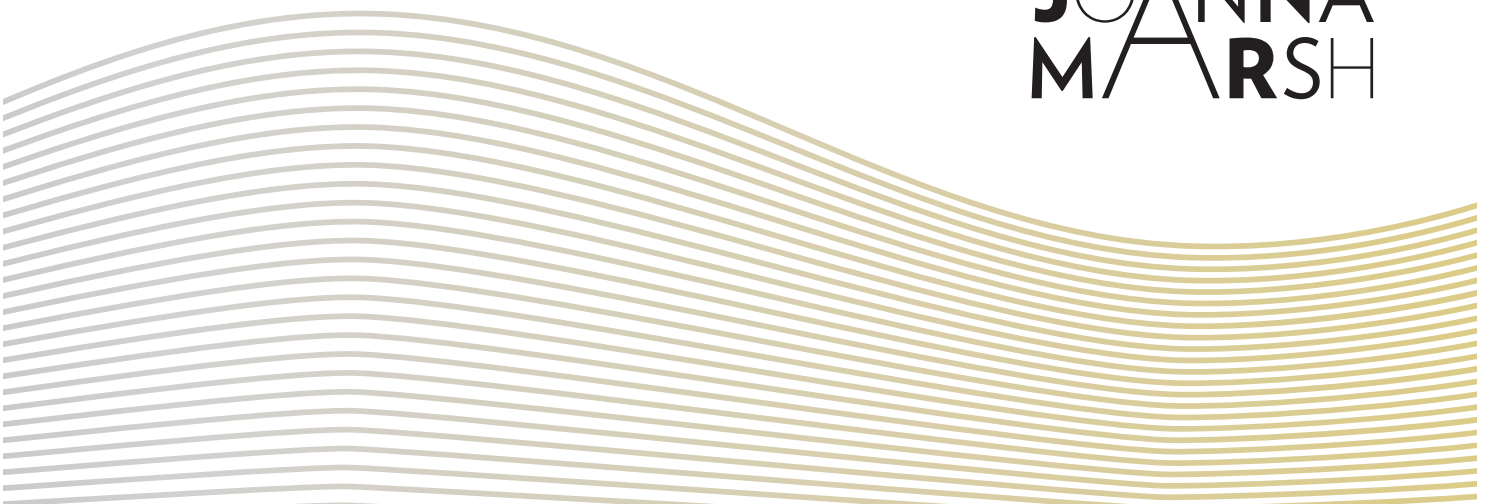
Joanna Marsh

**The Hidden Light**

SSAATTBB  
unaccompanied

Perusal  
copy

JOANNA  
M/ARSH



## The Hidden Light

*Malcolm Guite*

It's getting darker, darker all the time  
And she is weary and beset with fear  
Yet in the darkness of her womb he stirs,  
Her tiny hope, the one who is to come.  
So on she plods, on past the hostile stares  
The checkpoints and the soldiers on the street  
Seeking some shelter, somewhere to retreat  
And bring to birth the hidden light she bears.

She finds her shelter now and we attend her  
Attend this burdened girl who speaks for us,  
Whispers to God a broken world's soft 'yes,  
Come to be born with us, come find us here  
Outface for us the darkness we can't face,  
Show us the face of Love that casts out fear.

Joanna Marsh

**The Hidden Light (September 2023)**

SSAATTBB unaccompanied

Duration c.5'30"

The Hidden Light was commissioned by the Master and Fellows of St John's College, Cambridge. It was first performed on Saturday 25 November 2023 by The Choir of St John's College, Cambridge, directed by Christopher Gray.

© 2023 Joanna Marsh  
[www.joannamarsh.co.uk](http://www.joannamarsh.co.uk)

# The Hidden Light

Malcolm Guite

Joanna Marsh

**Luminous** ♩ = 106 Solo  
Dark \_\_\_\_\_

*pp*

SOPRANO  
It's get - ting \_\_\_ dark - er, it's get - ting \_\_\_ dark - er, \_

*pp*

ALTO  
It's get - ting \_\_\_ dark - er, it's get - ting \_\_\_ dark - er, \_

TENOR SOLO

*pp*

TENOR  
It's get - ting \_\_\_ dark - er, it's get - ting \_\_\_ dark - er, \_

*pp*

BASS  
It's get - ting \_\_\_ dark - er, it's get - ting \_\_\_ dark - er, \_

**Luminous** ♩ = 106

*pp*

SOPRANO  
Get - ting \_\_\_ dark - er all the time, \_\_\_ get - ting \_\_\_

*pp*

ALTO  
Get - ting \_\_\_ dark - er all the time, get - ting \_\_\_

*pp*

TENOR  
Get - ting \_\_\_ dark - er all the time, get - ting \_\_\_

*pp*

BASS  
Get - ting \_\_\_ dark - er all the time, get - ting

4 dark \_\_\_\_\_ dark \_\_\_\_\_

get-ting dark-er, it's get-ting dark-er,

it's get-ting dark-er, it's get-ting

Solo *mp*

And she is wear - - y and be-set

it's get-ting dark-er, it's get-ting

it's get-ting dark-er, it's get-ting dark-er,

*pp*

dark-er all the time, get-ting dark-er all the time, get-ting,

*pp*

dark-er all the time, get-ting dark-er all the time, get-ting

*pp*

dark-er all the time, get-ting dark-er all the time, get-ting dark-er,

*pp*

dark-er all the time, get-ting dark-er all the time, get-ting

8 *Tutti*  
*p*

with fear dark - ness of her

with fear Yet in the dark - ness

with fear Yet in the dark - ness of her

set with fear Yet in the dark - ness

get-ting dark - er, in the dark - ness

it's get-ting Yet in the dark - ness of her

dark - er all the time, it's get-ting, get-ting of her

dark - er all the time, it's get-ting dark - er, of her

*p*

dark - er all the time Yet in dark-ness

12

Solo  
*mp*

*mf*

womb Her ti - ny hope, the one who is

*ppp*  
he stirs, in the dark Her ti - ny hope, the one

womb he stirs,

*ppp*  
womb he stirs, in the dark Her ti - ny hope, the one

*ppp*  
womb he stirs, the dark Her ti - ny hope, the one

womb

*ppp*  
womb he stirs, the dark Her ti - ny hope, the one

*ppp*  
womb he stirs, in the dark Her ti - ny hope, the one

*ppp*  
stirs in dark hope, the one

17

*pp* *pp* *pp*

to come. — Get-ting, get - ting, — get-ting, get-ting, —  
Tutti

*pp*

It's get-ting, get-ting dark - er, — get-ting, get-ting, —

*pp*

It's get-ting, get-ting dark - er, — get-ting, get-ting, —

*pp*

It's get-ting, get-ting dark - er, — get-ting, get-ting, —

*mf* *ppp* *mf*

So on she plods, — so on —

*mf* *ppp* *mf*

So on she plods, — so on —

*mf* *ppp* *mf*

So on she plods, — so on —

*mf* *ppp* *mf*

So on she plods, — so on —





25

*mf* the sold-iers \_\_\_\_\_ *f* Seek - ing some shel - ter, \_

*mf* the sold-iers \_\_\_\_\_ *mp* Seek-ing shel - ter, seek-ing shel - ter,

*mf* the sold-iers \_\_\_\_\_ *mp* Seek-ing shel - ter, seek-ing, *f* seek - ing some shel - ter, \_

*mp* Seek-ing shel - ter, seek-ing shel - ter,

*mf* sold-iers, \_\_\_\_\_ the sold-iers on the street Seek - ing some shel - ter,

*mf* sold-iers, \_\_\_\_\_ the sold-iers on the street Seek-ing shel - ter,

*mf* sold-iers, \_\_\_\_\_ the sold-iers on the street Seek - ing some shel - ter,

(Empty bass staff)

28

*mp*

*mf* *mp* *p*

seek-ing shel - ter, seek-ing shel - ter, some - where to re - treat

*mp* *p*

some - where to re - treat

*mf* *mp* *p*

seek-ing, seek-ing to re -

*mp* *p*

some - where to re - treat

*mf* *mp* *p*

seek-ing shel - ter, seek-ing shel - ter, to re -

*mf* *mp* *p*

seek-ing shel - ter, shel - ter, some - where to re - treat

*mf* *mp* *p*

Seek-ing, seek-ing to re -

33

*pp* *p*

And bring to birth the hid - den light, the hid - den

*pp* *p*

And bring to birth the hid - den light, the hid - den

*pp* *p*

And bring to birth the hid - den light, the hid - den

*pp* *p*

-treat And bring to birth hid - den light

*pp* *p*

the hid - den light, the hid - den

*pp* *p*

-treat And bring to birth hid - den light,

*pp* *p*

bring to birth the hid - den light, hid - den

*pp* *p*

-treat And bring to birth hid - den light

rit. a tempo

39

*mf* *f*

light she bears finds her

*mf*

light, light she bears hid-den light finds

*mf*

light bears. She finds

*mf*

She finds

rit. a tempo

*mf* *f*

light she bears. She finds her

*mf* *f*

light, she bears hid-den light She finds her

*mf*

light She finds

*mf*

She finds

43

shel - ter now and we at - tend \_\_\_\_\_ her

*f*  
shel - ter now, now\_ and\_ we at - tend\_ her, at - tend\_ her, 'tend\_

*f*  
and we at - tend

shel - ter now and we at - tend

shel - ter now and we at - tend \_\_\_\_\_ her, she \_\_\_\_\_

*f*  
and we at - tend her,

*f*  
and we \_\_\_\_\_