



Gerald Cohen

Chanukah Lights

For SSAATTB a cappella Chorus

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

Chanukah Lights was written in 2005 as a piece for SSA choir with optional piano, for the wonderful A Cappella Choir of the PEARLS Hawthorne Elementary School in Yonkers NY, conducted by Emme Kresek. (In addition to being an excellent choir, the school is a block from my home, and our daughter was a 5th grader there at the time.) A simple melody floats over harmonies set up by the other voices, as the choir sings of the warmth of being together for the Chanukah holiday. The refrain concentrates on the key word “light” and builds a gentle rocking figure in the chorus.

Chicago A Cappella asked me to compose a new version for their professional chorus, giving me the opportunity to write an SSAATTB a cappella version of the piece that they would perform and record. They gave the premiere in December 2022, and it was included on Chicago a cappella's album *Miracle of Miracles* in 2023.

—Gerald Cohen

Text, by Gerald Cohen:

The candles are gently glowing,
spreading peace, spreading light.
Our family gathers together,
sharing joy this Chanukah night.

Light, light,
bring joy each night!

FOR PERUSAL ONLY

Duration: 3 minutes

Chanukah Lights

music and lyrics by
Gerald Cohen

Moderato (♩ = c. 126)

Soprano 1 *p* The can - dles are gent - ly glow - ing, spread - ing

Soprano 2 *p* Lu, Lu, Lu, Lu,

Alto 1 *p* Lu, Lu, Lu, Lu,

Alto 2 *p* Lu, Lu, Lu, Lu,

Tenor 1

Tenor 2

Bass

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S 1 peace, spread - ing light. Our fa - mi - ly ga - thers to - ge - ther, shar - ing joy this Cha - nu - kah

S 2 Lu, Lu, Lu, Lu, Lu,

A 1 Lu, Lu, Lu, Lu, Lu,

A 2 Lu, Lu, Lu, Lu, Lu,

10 *mp*

S 1 night. Light, light, bring joy each night!

S 2 Lu, Light, light, bring joy each night!

A 1 Lu, Light, light, bring joy each night!

A 2 Lu, light, light, bring joy each night!

(♩ = ♩) Same tempo, but more feeling of motion

15 *mp gently*

S 1 Lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u,

S 2

A 1 *mp gently*
Lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u,

A 2

T 1 *mp gently*
Lu, Lu, Lu,

T 2 *mp gently*
Lu, Lu, Lu,

B *mf*
The can-dles are gent-ly glow-ing, spread-ing peace, spread-ing light. Our fa-mi-ly ga-thers to-

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Soli: *mp* gently

S 1 lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, Lu, Lu, Lu,

Most sopranos: *mf*

S 2 Lu - lu, lu, lu, lu, lu, lu, lu,

A 1 *mp* gently
lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u,

A 2 *mp* gently
lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u,

T 1 Lu, Lu, Lu, Lu,

T 2 Lu, Lu, Lu, Lu,

B ge - ther, shar - ing joy this Cha - nu - kah night. Lu, Lu,

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cresc.

S 1 Lu, Light, light, bring joy

cresc.

S 2 lu, lu, lu, lu, lu, lu, lu, Light, light, bring joy

cresc.

A 1 lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, Light, light, bring joy

cresc.

A 2 lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, lu - u, Light, light, bring joy

cresc.

T 1 Lu, Lu, light, light, bring joy

cresc.

T 2 Lu, Lu, Light, light, bring joy

cresc.

B Lu, Lu, light, light, bring joy

2nd time only, rit. and dim.

A tempo *p*

S 1 each night! _____ Lu, _____ Lu, _____ Lu, _____

S 2 each night! _____ *mp* The can - dles are gent - ly - glow - ing, *p* Lu,

A 1 each night! *p* Lu, _____ Lu, _____ Lu, _____ Lu, _____ Lu, _____

A 2 each night! *p* Lu, _____ Lu, _____ Lu, _____ Lu, _____ Lu, _____

T 1 *p* each night! _____ u, _____ u, _____ u, _____ u, _____ *p* on

T 2 *p* each night! _____ on

B each night!

rit. *poco*

S 1 Lu, _____ Lu, _____ bring _____ light! _____

S 2 Lu, _____ Lu, _____ Lu, _____ light! _____ *poco*

A 1 Lu, _____ Lu, _____ Lu, _____ light! _____ *poco*

A 2 u, _____ u, _____ u, _____ Ligh(t)! *poco*

T 1 Cha - nu-kah we ga - ther to - ge - - - ther, bring _____

T 2 Cha - nu-kah we ga - ther to - ge - - - ther, bring _____

B

Do not pronounce "t" of "light" on cutoff in A2

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