

Louder!  
SSA, body percussion  
JH - GRL40

Grace Becker

pdf - \$1.95  
printed - \$3.75

# Louder!

## Grace Becker

for SSA choir and body percussion



COMPOSE  
LIKE A **GIRL**

Illustration: KT Thompson

*jh* music

## Text:

Say it louder for the ones in the back.  
Won't let them tell me how I'm s'posed to act.  
Say it louder, let my mind run free.  
Won't build my life on what you think of me.

I am not a prize.  
You are not the victor.  
I won't sympathize to keep you in my way.  
I'm a raging fire,  
But I can be a snowfall.  
Won't listen to your lies about who I am today.

Say it louder for the ones in the back.  
Won't let them tell me how I'm s'posed to act.  
Say it louder, let my mind run free.  
Keep moving forward, keep to your own beat.

I'm an evergreen pine.  
I'm the flower and the thistle.  
And I'm doing just fine out here on my own.  
There's a very thin line  
Between a smile and a whistle.  
Whatever move you try, you won't knock me off my throne.

Say it louder for the ones in the back.  
Won't let them tell me how I'm s'posed to act.  
Say it louder, let my mind run free.  
Keep moving forward, keep to your own beat.

Say it louder for the ones in the back.  
Won't let them tell me how I'm s'posed to act.  
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Won't build my life on what you think of me.  
- Grace Becker

## From the Composer:

The inspiration for this song came to me as a soon-to-be music teacher in my undergrad, still young and discovering my place in the world. I have lived much of my life as a people-pleaser, always choosing to stick to the background, to stay quiet rather than cause a stir. While there are circumstances where that may be necessary, I have found there are times when you must act. When there is prejudice and injustice, we must speak up. That is where real change begins. Use your voices, do not remain silent, because the time has come to make a fuss.

"If you have a voice, use it.  
If you have legs, stand up.  
If you have feet, step up.  
If you have each other, fight together."

- Janna Cachola



**Grace Becker** is a composer, educator, and poet based in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She is excited to share her passion for spreading joy and writing music with the world. Grace grew up singing in choirs in her hometown of Bloomington, MN and began composing while receiving her bachelor's in music education from Wartburg College. She quickly found purpose in the vulnerable, honest nature of this process. She has since composed a handful of songs, with her debut appearing in the Compose Like A Girl series. She has always had a love for poetry and storytelling, often choosing to make settings of her own poems. Choral music has left a profound mark on her life and she is honored to be able to share her works with the public, hoping they will find those who need to hear them the most.

## Body Percussion Notes::

The body percussion in this piece features the following motions:

- Finger Snaps (both hands at the same time)
- Hand Claps
- Stomps (Labeled "R" and "L" for which foot should hit the ground. The stomps alternate for most of the piece but are labeled throughout for convenience)
- Chest Slaps (light thud against sternum, labeled first as 'RLR' and continues to follow that pattern, open-handed, not a fist)

The body percussion should be split into 2 sections amongst the ensemble. However, directors are welcome to have a small group perform the percussion rather than the whole ensemble if necessary. Directors may also choose to separate the percussion into more than 2 parts. The motions should compliment the music but not overpower it.

To split the body percussion...

Part 1: Stomps

Part 2: All other motions

Dear conductor,

You can support these composers, diversify your concerts, and push towards equality by programming music from the #ComposeLikeAGirl series. Inviting the composer into the rehearsal process through a zoom or in-person workshop or Q & A session is an incredible experience for all involved. Be sure to notify and invite the composer to any performances of the work, and submit a PDF of the concert program to JH Music to ensure the composer receives performances royalties from ASCAP. Thank you!

~ Jocelyn Hagen

# Louder!

for SSA choir and body percussion

Words and music by  
Grace Becker

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*Adagio*  
*mf*

Solo  
Say it lou - der for the ones in the back. Won't let them tell me how I'm s'posed to act.\_\_\_\_

Soprano 1  
*fp*  
Oo

Soprano 2  
*fp*  
Oo

Alto  
*fp*  
Oo

Piano  
*mf*

5 *Andante*

Stomp

Solo  
*mp* Say it lou - der, let my mind run free.\_\_\_\_ *mf* Won't build my life on what you think of me.\_\_\_\_

S1  
*mp* Say it lou - der, let my mind run free.\_\_\_\_ *mf* Won't build my life on what you think of me.\_\_\_\_

S2  
*mp* Say it lou - der, let my mind run free.\_\_\_\_ *mf* Won't build my life on what you think of me.\_\_\_\_

A  
*mp* Say it lou - der, let my mind run free.\_\_\_\_ *mf* Won't build my life on what you think of me.\_\_\_\_

Piano  
*mp* *mf*



*jh* music

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9

Finger Snap  
 Hand Clap  
 Stomp

R R R R R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R L R

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S1 Hey Hey I am not a prize, you are not the *mf*

S2 Hey Hey I am not a prize, you are not the *mf melody*

A Hey Hey I am not a prize, you are not the *mf*

joceelyn chagen

15

Finger Snap  
 Hand Clap  
 Stomp

L R L R L R L R L R L

S1 vic - tor. I won't sym - pa - thize to keep you in my keep you in my way. I'm a rag - ing *f*

S2 vic - tor. I won't sym - pa - thize to keep you in my way. I'm a rag - ing *f*

A vic - tor. I won't sym - pa - thize to keep you in my, keep you in my way. I'm a rag - ing *f*

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18

Finger Snap

Hand Clap

Stomp

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S1

S2

A

fire but I can be a snow - fall. Won't lis - ten to your lies a - bout who I am\_ to -

j o c e l y n c h a g e n

21

Stomp

S1

S2

A

day. Hey, Say it lou - der for the ones in the back. Won't let them tell me how I'm

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25

Stomp

L R L R L R L R L

S1  
s'posed to act. Say it lou - der let my mind run free.

S2  
s'posed to act. Say it lou - der let my mind run free.

A  
s'posed to act. Say it lou - der let my mind fun free.

joceelyn chagen

28

Stomp

R

S1  
Keep mov - ing for - ward, keep to your own beat. Hey

S2  
Keep mov - ing for - ward, keep to your own beat. Hey

A  
Keep mov - ing for - ward, keep to your own beat. Hey

31

Finger Snap  
Hand Clap  
Stomp

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S1 *mp* I'm an ev - er - green pine. *mf* I'm the flow - er and the

S2 *mp* I'm an ev - er - green pine. *mf* I'm the flow - er and the

A *mp* I'm an ev - er - green pine. *mf* I'm the flow - er and the

*mp* *mf*

33

Finger Snap  
Hand Clap  
Stomp

L R L L L L L R L

S1 *f* this - tle. And I'm do - ing just fine out here on my own. There's a ver - y thin

S2 *f* this - tle. And I'm do - ing just fine out here on my own. There's a ver - y thin

A *f* this - tle. And I'm do - ing just fine out here on my own. There's a ver - y thin

*f*

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36

Finger Snap

Hand Clap

Stomp

Do not photocopy.  
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S1 line be - tween a smile and a whis - tle. What - ev - er move you try, you won't knock me off\_my

S2 line be - tween a smile and a whis - tle. What - ev - er move you try, you won't knock me off\_my

A line be - tween a smile and a whis - tle. What - ev - er move you try, you won't knock me off\_my

j o c e l y n c h a g e n

39

Stomp

L R L R

S1 throne. *f* Say it lou - der for the ones in the back.

S2 throne. *f* Say it lou - der for the ones in the back.

A throne. *f* Say it lou - der for the ones in the back.

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42

Hand Clap

Chest

Stomp

R L R

R L R L R L R L R L R L

Do not photocopy.  
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S1

Won't let them tell me how I'm s'posed to act. Say it lou - der let my mind run free.

S2

Won't let them tell me how I'm s'posed to act. Say it lou - der let my mind run free.

A

Won't let them tell me how I'm s'posed to act. Say it lou - der let my mind run free.

Piano accompaniment for measures 42-45

joceelyn chagen

46

Hand Clap

Stomp

R

S1

Keep mov - ing for - ward keep to your own beat. *ff*

S2

Keep mov - ing for - ward keep to your own beat. *ff*

A

Keep mov - ing for - ward keep to your own beat. *ff*

Piano accompaniment for measures 46-49

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50

Hand Clap

Chest

Stomp

Solo or small group

R L R

Solo

S1

S2

A

Say it lou - der for the ones in the back.

Won't let them tell me how I'm

Say it lou - der for the ones in the back.

Won't let them tell me how I'm

Say it lou - der for the ones in the back.

Won't let them tell me how I'm

Say it lou - der for the ones in the back.

Won't let them tell me how I'm

Do not photocopy.  
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53

Hand Clap

Chest

Stomp

L R L R L R L L L L

Solo

S1

S2

A

*mf*

s'posed to act. Say it lou - der let my mind run free.

57

Stomp

L

All:

R L

S1

S2

A

*ff*

Won't build my life on what you think of me.

# COMPOSE LIKE A GIRL



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Listen to Jocelyn interview incredible female-identifying composers about their process, finding artistic truth, and leading with curiosity. These inspirational interviews are complemented by excellent recordings.



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JH-GRL07.2	Patti Arntz	A Quilt of Snow (arr. of Norwegian folk tune)	SATB, flute, piano
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