

## Choral Readings "In Flanders Fields"

There are several versions for both elementary and secondary students to try.

### Version I

Start with sounds of birds nearby, wind in trees and distant sounds of booming as if guns are going off.

Female voice: In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
 Male voice: Between the crosses  
 Females: row on row  
 Males: That mark our place;  
 Female voice: and in the sky (pointing)  
 The larks, still bravely singing, fly.  
 All: Scarce heard amid the guns below.

Males: We are the Dead. Short days ago  
 We lived,  
 Male voice: felt dawn  
 Another male voice:  
 saw sunset glow  
 Another male voice:  
 loved  
 Another male voice:  
 and were loved  
 Males: and now we lie in Flanders fields.

Unison: Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
 Female voice: To you from failing hands we throw  
 the torch;  
 Females pointing:  
 be yours to hold it high.  
 Males: If ye break faith with us who die  
 We shall not sleep  
 Male voice: though poppies grow  
 All: In Flanders Fields.

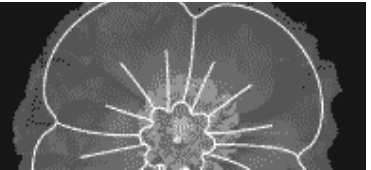
End with gun sounds, fading to bird sounds, fading to sounds of the wind.

### Version II – Less Rehearsal

Females: In Flanders fields the poppies blow  
 Between the crosses, row on row  
 Males: that mark our place; and in the sky  
 The larks, still bravely singing, fly  
 All: Scarce heard amid the guns below.

All: We are the Dead.  
 Males: Short days ago  
 We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow.  
 Females: Loved and were loved  
 Males: and now we lie in Flanders fields.

All: Take up our quarrel with the foe.  
 Females: To you from failing hands we throw  
 The torch;  
 Males: be yours to hold it high.  
 All: If ye break faith with us who die  
 We shall not sleep  
 One male: though poppies grow  
 In Flanders fields.



## Choral Readings "In Flanders Fields"

### Version III – Complex

Start with soundscape setting the scene for Flanders with sounds of birds and guns

Female voices: In Flanders fields

Add in: headlines of the day that show what was being highlighted in current events.

Male voices superimpose:

The poppies blow,  
Between the crosses, row on row,

All creating an echo:

that mark our place..our place..our  
place..our place..

Background singing of:

"It's a Long Way to Tipperary"

One voice hand up to stop repeated our place and singing of Tipperary song;

and in the sky  
The larks still bravely singing, fly  
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

Soundscape of increasing gun sounds mixed with pieces of headlines and popular war songs.

Males: We are the dead.  
Short days ago we lived.

Female: Felt dawn

Male: Saw sunset glow

Males: Loved

Females: and were loved

All: and now we lie in Flanders fields.

War headlines in soundscape with sounds of punctuating explosions.

Males: Take up our quarrel with the foe

Females: To you from failing hands we throw

All: The torch...echo...the torch...the  
torch...the TORCH

All: Be yours to hold it high.

Male: If ye break faith with us who die

All: We shall not sleep...sleep...sleep.

Soundscape with birds, guns and headlines.

Female voice: though poppies grow  
In Flanders fields.