

# *We will* **Follow Brave Debs** **To The End**

*by* Ellis B. Harris



To you, the workers of all lands,  
Of every color, race and creed,  
Whose fertile minds and toiling hands  
Have ever fed the powers of greed,  
I dedicate love's melody,  
Of one great soul, with flag unfurled,  
Who gave his all to make men free,  
That you may sing it to the world.



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To my beloved comrade, Theodore Debs.

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Ellis B. Harris

## Foreword

The writer tenders this ballad not as a worshiper of Eugene V. Debs, but as one, who by association and knowledge has learned to love him because of his sterling character, his unwavering loyalty and years of unselfish service in the interest of the toiling masses.

The life of Debs has not been one of self-seeking, but of self sacrificing devotion to a cause in which no compensation comes but the reward of conscience and the affection of a world-wide fellowship.

Debs typifies, more fully than any other individual, all that is best in the Socialist movement of this country, and because of this, he is deserving of all the regard and comradely affection proffered.

Socialism must offer more than an abundance for our material welfare. It must also hold forth a fraternity of affectionate fellowship, and so minister to our spiritual desires as well. In the character of Debs we have this promise of a future state in which the spirit of fraternity shall dominate and inspire the co-operative effort in all good things.

The spirit of Debs is a fountain of affection whose source is the red heart current of the masses. No man or woman can truly love, nor sincerely serve, whose disposition is to armor themselves against this. To truly give affection is to crave it also. The flow can be no more abundant than the source. Debs loves humanity— of that there can be no doubt. As an individual he gives an abundance of affection to us; collectively we should be as generous with him.

# FOLLOW BRAVE DEBS TO THE END

ELLIS B. HARRIS.

*mf*

The piano introduction consists of two staves. The right hand plays a series of chords and eighth notes in a descending pattern. The left hand plays a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes.

The vocal line begins with a treble clef and a key signature of three flats. The melody is simple and follows the rhythm of the lyrics.

O com - rades, dear comrades, come join in my lay, Of one kind - ly heart loyal and  
 A - down thru the a - ges, a - gain and a - gain, Great souls point the wide o - pen  
 Our i - deal is Debs, ours to have and to hold, To share in each smile and each

The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic pattern as the introduction, supporting the vocal line.

The vocal line continues with the same treble clef and key signature, maintaining the simple melodic line.

brave; A dream - er who dreams of the world's better day, When tyrants no long - er en -  
 door; And be they our sa - ges our gods or just men, The way leads from slav'ry and  
 tear; No jewels for a crown, nor a scep - tre of gold, But comrades to love and to

The piano accompaniment concludes with the same rhythmic pattern, ending on a final chord.

slave. He's our Gene, faith-ful Gene, in rank and file; And dear  
war. If we heed them our love, like sun and dew, Will then  
cheer. And though ty - rants may plan a Cal - va - ry, We will

com - rades he's trust - ing to you, Now to take up the struggle, what -  
bright - en the cheeks that are wan, And the spir - its that fal - ter, will  
gath - er, with love, to de - fend, And we'll pledge one an oth - er, till

ev - er the trial, And so make all his dream - ing come true.  
cour - age re - new, Till they smile thru their tears with the dawn.  
all lands are free, We will fol - low brave Debs to the end.

## CHORUS

Now draw ev - er near, in the faith we have plight-ed, And  
 cheer, comrades cheer, for the work-ers u - nit-ed; Then press ev - er on till the  
 world's wrongs are right-ed, And fol - low brave Debs to the end.

The musical score is written in a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and a common time signature (C). It consists of four systems of music. Each system includes a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano accompaniment is written in grand staff notation, with the right hand playing chords and the left hand playing a rhythmic bass line. The vocal line is written in a single staff with a treble clef. The lyrics are placed below the vocal line. The score ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

