The Internationale

Stand up all victims of oppression For the tyrants fear your might Don't cling so hard to your possessions For you have nothing if you have no rights Let racist ignorance be ended For respect makes the empires fall Freedom is merely privilege extended Unless enjoyed by one and all

So come brothers and sisters For the struggle carries on The internationale Unites the world in song So comrades come rally For this is the time and place The international ideal Unites the human race

Let no one build walls to divide us Walls of hatred nor walls of stone Come greet the dawn and stand beside us We'll live together or we'll die alone In our world poisoned by exploitation Those who have taken now they must give And end the vanity of nations We've but one earth on which to live

And so begins the final drama In the streets and in the fields We stand unbowed before their armor We defy their guns and shields When we fight provoked by their aggression Let us be inspired by like and love For though they offer us concessions Change will not come from above

Billy Bragg