

Bread and Roses

James Oppenheim

Caroline Kohlsaatt, c. 1920

1. As ___ we come march - ing, march - ing, In the
2. As ___ we come march - ing, march - ing, We ___
3. As ___ we come march - ing, march - ing, Un -
4. As ___ we come march - ing, march - ing, We ___

3
beau - ty of the day, A ___ mil - lion dark - ened
bat - tle too for men, For ___ they are wo - men's
num - bered wo - men dead Go ___ cry - ing through our
bring the great - er days: The ___ ris - ing of the

6
kit - chens, A ___ thou - sand work - shops gray, Are ___
child - ren, And we moth - er them a - gain, Our ___
sing - ing, Their an - cient song of bread! Small
wo - men Means the ris - ing of the race. No ___

9
touched with all the ra - diance That a sud - den sun dis -
lives shall not be sweat - ed From birth un - til life
art and love and beau - ty Their drudg - ing spir - its
more the drudge and id - ler, Ten that toil where one re -

12

clos - es, For the peo - ple hear us sing - ing, "Bread and
 clos - es, Hearts starve as well as bod - ies: Give us
 knew, Yes it is bread we fight for, But we
 pos - es, But a shar - ing of life's glo - ries: Bread and

15

Ros - es, Bread and Ros - es."
 bread, but give us ros - es.
 fight for ros - es, too.
 Ro - ese, Bread and Ro - ses.

"Bread and Roses" is a poem commemorating the great 1912 Lawrence Textile Strike, when thousands of mill workers, mostly women and children, went on strike because the mill owners unjustly cut their wages. According to legend, one of the women held a sign that read "We Want Bread and We Want Roses, Too"—using words from James Oppenheim's 1911 poem as a rallying cry for the strike, and making the statement that the strikers wanted more than just fair wages, they also wanted "a sharing of life's glories."