Jer 25:30 ¶ Therefore prophesy thou against them all these words, and say unto them, The LORD shall roar from on high, and utter his voice from his holy habitation; he shall mightily roar upon his habitation; he shall give a shout, as they that tread the grapes, against all the inhabitants of the earth.

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Julia W. Howe (1819-1910)

*Words:* 1861, Julia W. Howe, This hymn was born dur­ing the Amer­i­can ci­vil war, when Howe vis­it­ed a Un­ion Ar­my camp on the Po­to­mac Riv­er near Wash­ing­ton, D. C. She heard the sol­diers sing­ing the song “John Brown’s Body,” and was tak­en with the strong march­ing beat. She wrote the words the next day:

**I awoke in the grey of the morn­ing, and as I lay wait­ing for dawn, the long lines of the de­sired po­em be­gan to en­twine them­selves in my mind, and I said to my­self, “I must get up and write these vers­es, lest I fall asleep and for­get them!” So I sprang out of bed and in the dim­ness found an old stump of a pen, which I re­mem­bered us­ing the day be­fore. I scrawled the vers­es al­most with­out look­ing at the p­aper.**

The hymn ap­peared in the *At­lant­ic Month­ly* in 1862. It was sung at the fun­er­als of Brit­ish states­man Win­ston Church­ill, Am­er­i­can pre­si­dents Ron­ald Rea­gan and Ri­chard Nix­on.

*Music:* John Brown’s Bo­dy, poss­i­bly by John Will­iam Steffe.

John Brown was an Amer­i­can abo­li­tion­ist who led a short lived in­­sur­­rect­­ion to free the slaves.

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| http://www.cyberhymnal.org/img/h/o/howe_jw2.jpg  Julia W. Howe (1819-1910) | *Born:* May 27, 1819, New York, New York.  *Died:* Oc­to­ber 17, 1910, Mid­dle­town, Rhode Is­land.  *Buried:* Mount Au­burn Cem­e­te­ry, Cam­bridge, Mass­a­chusetts. | http://www.cyberhymnal.org/img/h/o/howe_jw.jpg  Julia W. Howe (1819-1910) |