

## Solidarity Forever

*Original song incl. stanzas on back by Ralph Chaplin, 1915. 'They say our day is over' and 'They divide us by our color' verses by Steve Suffet. 'Wash the dishes' stanza by Faith Petric.*

When the **union's** inspiration through the **workers'** blood shall run,  
There can **be** no power **greater anywhere** beneath the sun.  
Yet what **force** on earth is **weaker** than the **feeble** strength of one?  
But the **union** makes us strong!

### **Chorus:**

Solidarity forever! Solidarity forever!  
Solidarity for-e-ever! For the union makes us strong!

They have **taken** untold **trillions** that they **never** toiled to earn,  
But **without** our brain and **muscle** not a **single** wheel can turn.  
We can **break** their haughty power, gain our **freedom** when we learn  
That the **union** makes us strong! ... **Chorus**

They **say** our day is **over** and they **say** our time is through,  
They **say** you need no **union** if your **collar** isn't blue,  
Well, **that** is just another **lie** the **boss** is telling you,  
For the **union** makes us strong! ... **Chorus**

They **divide** us by our color, they **divide** us by our tongue,  
They **divide** us men and **women**, they **divide** us old and young;  
But they'll **tremble** at our **voices** when they **hear** these verses sung,  
For the **union** makes us strong! ... **Chorus (twice)**

### Optional additional verse:

It is **we** who wash the **dishes**, scrub the **floors** and chase the dirt  
Feed the **kids** and send them **off** to school and **then** we go to work  
Where we **toil** for half the **wages** for a **boss** that likes to flirt  
But the **union** makes us strong!

Is there ought we hold in common with the greedy parasite  
Who would lash us into serfdom and would crush us with his might?  
Is there anything left to us but to organize and fight? For the union makes us strong!

It is we who plowed the prairies; built the cities where they trade;  
Dug the mines and built the workshops, endless miles of railroad laid;  
Now we stand outcast and starving midst the wonders we have made, but the union makes us strong.

All the world that's owned by idle drones is ours and ours alone;  
We have laid the wide foundations, built it skyward stone by stone --  
It is ours not to slave in, but to master and to own! For the union makes us strong.

In our hands is placed a power greater than their hoarded gold --  
Greater than the might of armies magnified a thousand fold.  
We can bring to birth a new world from the ashes of the old, for the union makes us strong!