



2 RN and American Voice

Let me say to you that this new American voice will rise above the confused alarms of struggle and flight.

That voice will become so strong that it will be heard by all Americans and all the nations of the earth and it will echo boldly through history.

Yes, we have stood embattled in the darkness of suspicion and despair. And we have wondered at times if even "a little light, dappled with shadow" would appear. And we have heard voices of fear and despair and distrust, and we have perhaps, at times, lost heart.

But I have heard a new voice. And I say to all my fellow Americans: listen.

That voice says that we have endured the struggle on the embattled plain.

That voice says that all our tragedies have but prepared the way to triumph, not despite what we have endured, but because of it.

I say to you: listen.

The new American voice is saying : take heart.

We have come through the long and bitter night.

And all over the plain, a hundred million voices, in one great voice , shout out:

We have endured.

We have learned.

And now, now, we must prepare to greet a new dawn.