

I've Been Working on the Railroad

Tag

45 I'll be work - in' on the rail - road all

46

47 day, live - long day!

48 all the

Performance Notes

I've Been Working on the Railroad is a 19th-century American folk song. Its origins are unknown, but it may have been adapted by Irish railroad workers in the West from an old hymn. Regardless of how the song came to be, most of us have sung it as children at school or camp.

The late Roger Payne created this arrangement to sing in contest with a brand-new barbershopper, and it proved to be such a huge success that it was quickly picked up by many quartets from novices to champs. Roger's arrangements are widely sung and include the previously published *One for My Baby*.

The song should be sung at a moderately fast tempo. Your audiences are sure to be delighted by your performance of this traditional song.

As a final note: Questions about the contest suitability of this or any other song/arrangement should be directed to the judging community and measured against current contest guidelines. Ask *before* you sing.

LIDA ROSE / WILL I EVER TELL YOU

8 parts men/women

Words and Music by
MEREDITH WILLSON

Arrangement by MO RECTOR
and NANCY BERGMAN

Intro

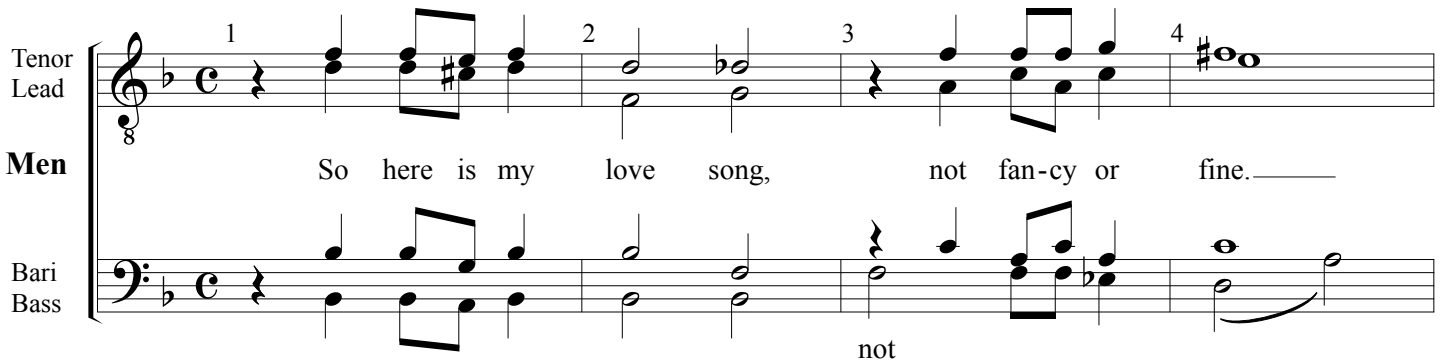
Tenor Lead

Men

Bari Bass

1 So here is my love song, 2 not fan-cy or 3 fine. 4

not

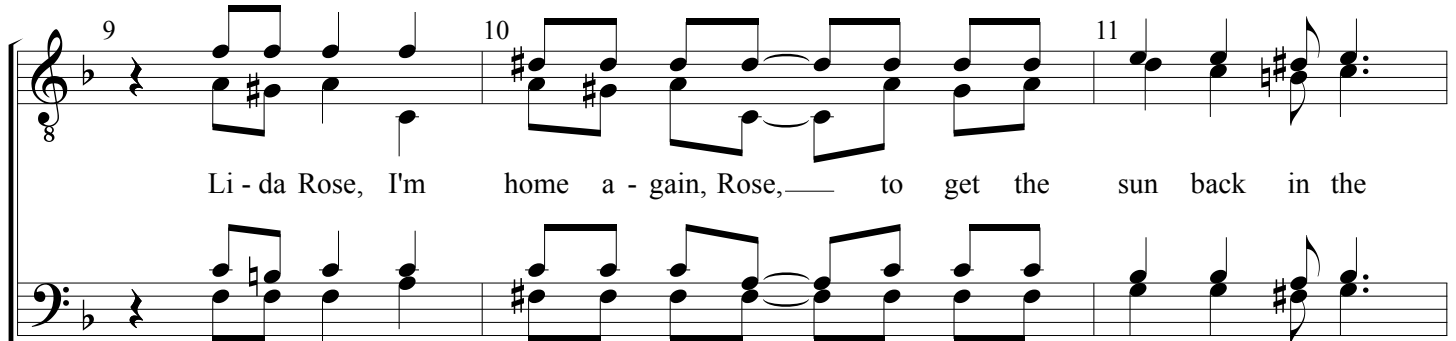


5 Li - da Rose, oh, 6 won't you be mine, 7 be mine? 8



Chorus 1

9 Li - da Rose, I'm 10 home a - gain, Rose, 11 to get the sun back in the



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Lida Rose / Will I Ever Tell You

12 13 14

sky. Li - da Rose, I'm home a - gain, Rose, — a - bout a

15 16 17 18 19

thou - sand kiss - es shy. Ding, dong, ding! I can hear the chap - el bell

20 21 22 23 24

chime. Ding, dong, ding! At the least sug - ges - tion I'll pop the ques - tion.

25 26 27 28

Li - da Rose, I'm home a - gain, Rose, — with - out a sweet - heart to my name.

Lida Rose / Will I Ever Tell You

29 30 31

Li - da Rose, now ev - 'ry - one knows — that I am hop - ing you're the

32 33 34 35 36

same. — So, here is my love song, not fan - cy or fine. —

not

37 38 39 40

Li - da Rose, oh, won't you be mine? Li - da Rose, oh, Li - da Rose. —

Chorus 2

41 42 43 44 45 x

Tenor Lead

Women

Bari Bass

Dream of now, dream of then. Dream of a

Lida Rose / Will I Ever Tell You

46 x x 47 48 x 49 50

love song that might have been. Do I love you? Oh, yes, I

51 52 53 54 55

love you. And I'll brave-ly tell you, but on - ly when we dream a -

56 57 58 59 60

gain. Sweet and low, sweet and low,

61 x 62 x x 63 64 x 65

how sweet the mem - 'ry, how long a - go. For - ev - er,

Lida Rose / Will I Ever Tell You

66 oh, yes, for - ev - er. 67 68 Will I ev - er 69 tell you? 70 Ah,

Chorus 3

71 no. 72 Dream of

Women

71 72 73 Li - da Rose, oh, Li - da Rose, oh, Li - da Rose, I'm

Men

71 72 73

74 now, 75 dream of 76 then.

74 75 76 home a - gain, Rose, — to get the sun back in the sky.

Lida Rose / Will I Ever Tell You

77 Dream of a love song that might have

78 x

79

Li - da Rose, I'm home a - gain, Rose, — a - bout a thou - sand kiss - es

80 x been. Do I love you? Oh, yes, I love you.

81

82

83

shy. Ding, dong, ding! I can hear the cha-pel bell

Lida Rose / Will I Ever Tell You

84 85 86 87

And I'll brave - ly tell you, but on - ly when we dream a -

chime. Ding, dong, ding! At the least sug - ges - tion

88 89 90

gain. Sweet and low,

I'll pop the ques - tion. Li - da Rose, I'm home a - gain, Rose, — with - out a

Lida Rose / Will I Ever Tell You

91 92 93 x 94 x x

sweet and low, how sweet the mem - 'ry,

91 92 93 94

sweet-heart to my name. Li-da Rose, now ev-'ry - one knows — that I am

95 96 x 97 98

how long a - go. — For - ev - er, oh, yes, for -

95 96 97 98

hop - ing you're the same. — So, here is my love song,

Lida Rose / Will I Ever Tell You

99 100 101 102

ev - er. Will I ev - er tell you? Ah,

not fan-cy or fine. Li - da Rose, oh, won't you be

not

103 104 105 106

no.

mine? Li - da Rose, oh, Li - da Rose, oh, Li - da Rose.