

SHINE ON, HARVEST MOON

(1908)

Words by
JACK NORWORTH

Music by NORA BAYES-NORWORTH
Arrangement by VAL HICKS and EARL MOON

Intro **Verse**

Tenor Lead

1 2 3 4 5

oo Night was dark you

Bari Bass

bass melody The night was might-y dark so you could

6 7 8

could not see, moon re - fused to shine.

hard - ly see, for the moon re - fused to shine.

9 10 11

Cou - ple un - der wil - low tree, for love they

Cou - ple sit - tin' un - der-neath a wil-low tree, for love they

12 pine. _____ Maid was 'fraid of
13 Lit - tle maid was kind - a 'fraid of dark-ness so — she
14

15 said, "I guess I'll go." _____ rit. freely
16 x Boy be - gan to sigh, _____
17

18 looked up at the sky, — told the moon his lit-tle tale — of woe: "Give a guy a break and
19 3 3
20 x a tempo
looked up at the sky, — told the moon his lit-tle tale — of woe: "Give a guy a break and

Chorus 1

21 shine on, shine on har - vest moon, _____ up in the sky. _____
22 23 24

25 26 27 28

A - pril, May or June or Ju - ly.

I ain't had no lov - in' since Jan-u-ar - y, Feb-ru-ar - y, June or Ju-ly. —

A - pril, May or June or Ju - ly.

29 30 31 32 33

Snow time ain't no time to stay — out-doors and spoon, so shine on,

Snow time

Chorus 2

34 35 36 37

shine on har - vest moon — for me and my gal." — "Oh, Mis-ter Moon, won't you

38 39 40 41

shine a lit - tle light right down on us while we cud - dle in the night? I love her and

Shine On, Harvest Moon

me, oh, my, — we have - n't e - ven kissed since the mid - dle of Ju - ly.

looo

42 43 44

Snow time, it ain't no time to spoon, — and who wants to wait un -

45 46 47

til next June? — So, shine on, oh, you har - vest

48 49 50

Tag

moon, — for me and my gal." — Shine on har - vest moon,

51 52 53

Shine —

shine, shine, shine,

ev - 'ry night in June, shine for me and my gal!

Performance Notes

Nora Bayes was born in Los Angeles in 1880 as Dora Goldberg, became a musical comedy star, was married for a time to Jack Norworth, and died in Brooklyn, New York in 1928. Jack Norworth, a composer, lyricist, and actor, was born in Philadelphia in 1879 and died in California in 1959. Little is known of other songs by Nora Bayes, but Jack Norworth's chief collaborator was Albert Von Tilzer and together they wrote "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" and a number of lesser-known songs.

The front cover of the first edition of "Shine On, Harvest Moon" has a drawing of a moon over a harvest with photographs of Nora and Jack. the song was sung in *The Follies of 1908* and has become a favorite song for those who love to sing and harmonize. Virtually everyone has heard it performed at one time or another.

Val Hicks and Earl Moon are premier arrangers of music in the barbershop style. Val Hicks coached and created the original barbershop arrangements for the Osmond Brothers. He is an outstanding composer, retired professor of music, lecturer, and music historian, and is actively promoting youth outreach programs introducing young people to the joy of singing. Some of his Society-published compositions are: "The Showboat Came to Town," "I'll Be a Song and Dance Man Again," "She Didn't Say No," and "That Summer When We Were Young." Val is also the arranger who gave us the wonderful arrangement of "The Star-Spangled Banner." Earl Moon, unfortunately, passed away in the spring of 1996. Earl was a dearty beloved guru of barbershop harmony, long-time chorus director for the Whittier Chapter of the Far Western District, and quartet singer. His wealth of arrangements will always be treasured.

In looking at the arrangement we find that the Intro sets the mood for the lyric of the Verse, and should be sung in such a manner as to portray the scenario. The bass melody further captures the moment, with the harmony parts "tip-toeing" around the youg couple as they witness the unfolding story. Maintain the beat and tempo up to the last part of measure 15 and then freely dramatize the story through the downbeat of measure 20. With the lead/tenor pickup notes in measure 20, get right back into the tempo for the rest of the song. You may wish to increase the tempo at Chorus 2 for variety and you might hold the penultimate (next-to-last) chord in the Tag. The optional notes are given in that chord in case the lead is capable of singing the higher note in good quality. If the lead sings the optional note, then the bass must take his optional note. This collaborative effort by Hicks and Moon will be around as long as there are men who sing.

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