

If You Can Walk You Can Dance

Zimbabwean proverb

TBB, piano and claves



Elizabeth Alexander

Seafarer Press

If You Can Walk You Can Dance

TBB, piano, claves *

Zimbabwean Proverb

Elizabeth Alexander

(♩ = approx. 80) Marcato, with rhythmic energy

Piano

f

sempre senza pedale

Pno

5

8 *mp* smoothly, sempre legato

Ten

Bar

Bass

CLAVES

mp

The musical score is written for TBB (Tenor, Baritone, Bass), Piano, and Claves. It begins with a piano introduction in 4/4 time, marked *f* and *sempre senza pedale*. The piano part features a rhythmic melody in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand. The vocal parts (Tenor, Baritone, Bass) enter at measure 8, marked *mp* and *smoothly, sempre legato*. They sing the lyrics: "If you can walk you can dance, — If you can talk you can sing. — If you can". The piano part continues with a rhythmic accompaniment, marked *mp*, and includes a section labeled "CLAVES" where the piano part plays a rhythmic pattern in the right hand while the left hand continues its bass line.

* If you'd like to add bass and/or marimba during the "CLAVES" sections, they may play the pianist's left and right hand parts, respectively.
For information about the claves part, see the last page of this score.

13

Ten

8

walk you can dance, — If you can talk you can sing. — If you can

Bar

walk you can dance, — If you can talk you can sing. — If you can

Bass

walk you can dance, — If you can talk you can sing. — If you can

Pno

17

Ten

8

walk you can dance, — If you can talk you can sing. — If you can

Bar

walk you can dance, — If you can talk you can sing. — If you can

Bass

walk you can dance, — If you can talk you can sing. — If you can

Pno

21

Ten

8

walk you can dance, — If you can talk you can sing.

Bar

walk you can dance, — If you can talk you can sing.

Bass

walk you can dance, — If you can talk you can sing.

Pno

NO CLAVES

25

Ten *mp* If you can talk you can sing, — If you can

Bar *mp* If you can walk you can dance, If you can talk you can sing, — If you can

Bass *mp* yes, you can dance, — If you can

(NO CLAVES)

Pno *mp* Red. *

29

Ten *mp* walk, then you can dance, If you can

Bar *mp* walk, then you can dance, If you can

Bass walk, then you can dance,

Pno *p*

33

Ten walk you can dance, — If you can talk you can sing, —

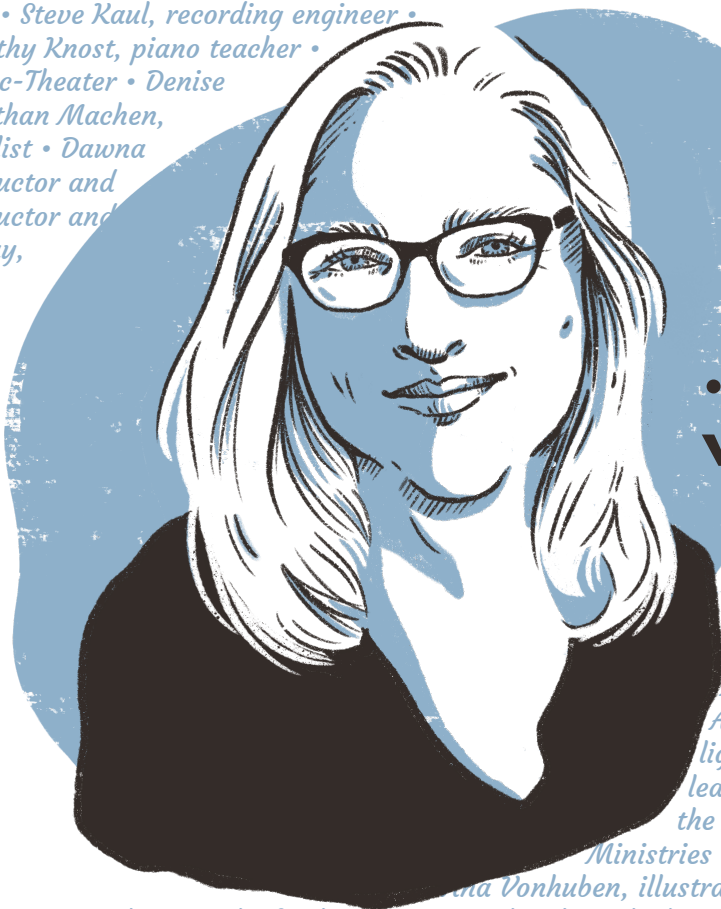
Bar walk you can dance, — If you can talk you can sing, —

Bass *mp* If you can

Pno CLAVES *mp*

Opal Palmer Adisa, poet • Paul Adams, technological hero • Stephen Alexander, lyric consultant • Ginny Allen, Agile coach and friend • The great people at American Composers Forum • Yehuda Amichai, poet • A. R. Ammons, poet • Jennifer Anderson, conductor and composer advocate • Scott Bates, poet • Abbie Betinis, initiator of collaborative endeavors • Beth Norton, conductor and composer advocate • Dennis Blubaugh, more than just a music dealer • Michael deVernon Boblett, poet • Edna Busby, my first piano teacher • Ray Bradbury, writer • Augustin Cadena, translator • Norbert Capek, minister and advocate for religious freedom • Jessica Corbett, editor and composer • David Cummings, poet • Philip Dacey, poet • Catherine Dalton, composer and scrum partner • Emily Dickinson, poet • Evelyn Dudley, poet and caregiver • Rob Eller-Isaacs, minister and writer • Paul Fennell, poet and composer advocate • Ralph Waldo Emerson, philosopher and poet • Louise Erdrich, writer • David Allan Evans, poet • Sophia Lyon Fahs, writer • Richard M. Fewkes, minister and writer • Pesha Gertler, poet • Jack Gallagher, composer and teacher • Paul Gerike, proofreader • Jocelyn Hagen and Mark Hakan, founders of Graphite Marketplace • Steve Harper, just about everything • Steve Harkins, web designer • Edie Hill, composer and friend • Langston Hughes, poet • Margaret and George Heald, printers • Martin Hohenberg, piano technician • Karel Husa, composer and teacher • David Ignatow, poet • Kabir, mystic • Linda Kachelmeier, composer and scrum partner • Ruth Palmer, conductor and composer advocate • Joan Wolf Prefontaine, poet • Paul Rardin, conductor and composer advocate • Kalidasa, poet • Steve Raul, recording engineer • Søren Kierkegaard, philosopher and poet • Dorothy Knost, piano teacher • Ben Krywosz, artistic director of Nautilus Music-Theater • Denise Levertov, poet • George Ella Lyon, poet • Jonathan Machen, vocalist • Dawna Markova, writer • Anne Matlack, conductor and composer advocate • Nancy Menk, composer advocate • Edna St. Vincent Millay, poet • Jane Ramseyer Miller, conductor, composer, social activist • Joe Mish, conductor and composer advocate • J. David Moore, composer and friend • John Muir, poet • Gerald Rich, poet • Carl Sandburg, poet • George Shearing, composer and friend • King Sigismund III, religious reformer • Ann Silsbee, composer, poet and friend • Simon Alexander-Adams, sounding board, fellow creative, and awesome son • Steven Stucky, composer and teacher • Rabindranath Tagore, poet • Sister Peronne Marie Thibert, teacher and writer • Oliver Alexander-Adams, unconventional thinker and light of my life • Howard Thurman, civil rights leader and writer • Everyone whose work supports the Association for Unitarian Universalist Music Ministries • Charles Varney, high school choral director • Anna Vonhuben, illustrator and graphic designer • Nancy White, poet • John Greenleaf Whittier, poet • Theodore Chickering Williams, poet • Daniel Winter, pianist and teacher • Nancy Wood, poet • Yehudi Wyner, composer and teacher

**A lot of hard work
and creativity went
into bringing this
music to you...**



**...and some of it
was even mine.**

**This page has been intentionally omitted.
(You know why.) A complete perusal score may be
purchased through any music store or dealer.**

Elizabeth Alexander

Seafarer Press

The Music of Elizabeth Alexander
www.seafarerpress.com

49 snap fingers:

Ten

Bar

Bass *mp un poco marcato*

If you, if you walk, If you walk, then you can dance, — you can dance.

53

Ten

Bar

Bass

If you, if you walk, If you walk, then you can dance, — you can dance.

57 *mp marcato*

Ten

If you can, can talk, you can sing, you can,

Bar *mp marcato*

If you can, can talk, you can sing, you can,

Bass

If you, if you walk, If you walk, then you can dance, — you can dance.

61

Ten

If you can, can talk, you can sing, you can,

Bar

If you can, can talk, you can sing, you can,

Bass

If you, if you walk, If you walk, then you can dance, — you can dance.

65

Ten *mp* *mf*

yes, you can dance, If you can

Bar *mp* *mf*

If you can talk you can sing, If you can

Bass *mp* *mf*

If you can walk you can dance, If you can talk you can sing, If you can

Pno (NO CLAVES) *mp* *mf*

69

Ten Solo *mp*

and you can

Bar Solo *mp*

then you can sing,

Ten *p subito*

walk, then you can dance, talk, then you can sing,

Bar *p subito*

walk, then you can dance, talk, then you can sing,

Bass *p subito*

walk, then you can dance, talk, then you can sing,

Pno *p subito*

73

Ten Solo

8

dance,

Bar Solo

mp

yes, you can sing,

Bass Solo

yes, you can sing,

Ten

p subito

walk, then you can dance, talk, then you can sing,

Bar

p subito

walk, then you can dance, talk, then you can sing,

Bass

p subito

walk, then you can dance, talk, then you can sing,

Pno

76

f

If you can walk, then you can dance,

Bass Solo

f

If you can walk, then you can dance,

Ten

f

If you can walk, then you can dance,

Bar

f

If you can walk, then you can dance,

Bass

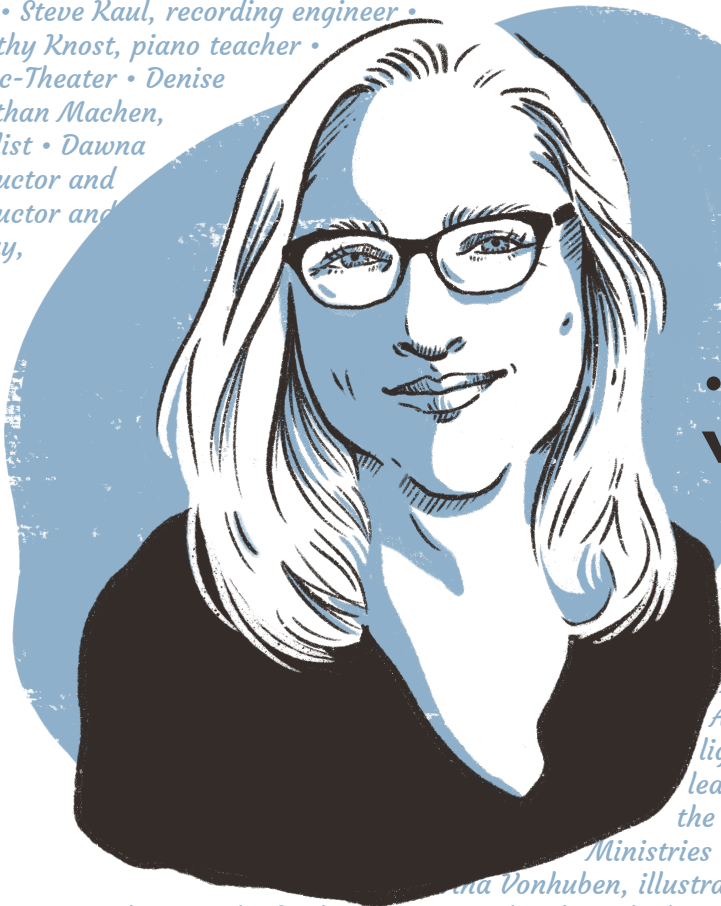
f

If you can walk, then you can dance,

Pno

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**...and some of it
was even mine.**

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Elizabeth Alexander

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The Music of Elizabeth Alexander
www.seafarerpress.com

REPEAT AD LIB. AUDIENCE SINGING IS WELCOME!

95 *mf* (Solo or Small Group) *

Ten Solo

If you can, can talk, you can sing, you can,

mf (Solo or Small Group)

Bar Solo

If you, if you walk, If you walk, then you can dance,—— You can dance.

Ten

walk you can dance,—— If you can talk you can sing.—— If you can

Bar

walk you can dance,—— If you can talk you can sing.—— If you can

Bass

walk you can dance,—— If you can talk you can sing.—— If you can

(CLAVES)

Pno

* Soloists: Enunciation of text is less important than rhythm. Pretend you are claves!

**Senza misura
lunga: 5-8 seconds**

99

Ten Solo

If you can, can talk,

Bar Solo

If you, if you walk, if you walk,

Ten

walk you can dance, — If you can talk,

Bar

walk you can dance, — If you can talk,

Bass

walk you can dance, — If you can talk,

Pno

NO CLAVES

Red.

The musical score is written for a Tenor Baritone Bass (TBB) choir and piano. It begins at measure 99. The Tenor Solo part has the lyrics 'If you can, can talk,'. The Baritone Solo part has the lyrics 'If you, if you walk, if you walk,'. The Tenor, Baritone, and Bass parts have the lyrics 'walk you can dance, — If you can talk,'. The piano part includes the instruction 'NO CLAVES' and a redaction mark. The score is in 2/4 time and ends with a double bar line.

102 **a tempo**

Ten *f* If you can talk, you can sing! —

Bar *f* If you can talk, you can sing! —

Bass *f* If you can talk you can sing! —

Pno

105

Ten

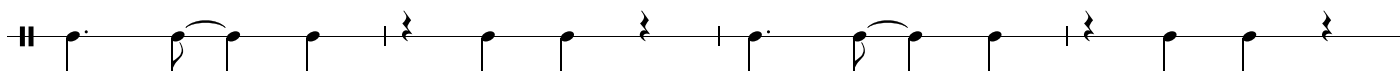
Bar

Bass

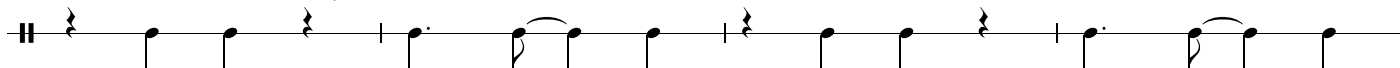
Pno *f* (How can I keep from singing?)

ABOUT THE CLAVES PART:

The claves are played during the chorus of this song. They may either be played like this:



Or with the measures reversed, like this:



If You Can Walk You Can Dance (SAB): SEA-022-03
If You Can Walk You Can Dance (SSA): SEA-022-06

If You Can Walk You Can Dance (TBB): SEA-022-05
If You Can Walk You Can Dance (SATB): SEA-022-07

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