

How Can I Keep From Singing?
GP-C012.3
unison choir, piano

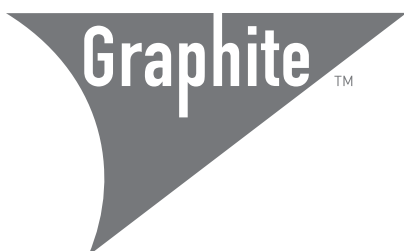
arr. Jennifer Lucy Cook

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How Can I Keep From Singing?

for unison choir and piano



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Jennifer Lucy Cook



Jennifer Lucy Cook (she/her) is a composer and lyricist based in Los Angeles. Jen specializes in music for the stage and screen, choral music, and pop songwriting. Recent choral commissions include Cantorum Chamber Choir, Opus Voices, and the UVU Chamber Choir. She is the recipient of the Edwin Fissinger Composition Award, the Chorus Austin Composition Prize and the Cantus Emerging Composer Award. She is an alumni of the Johnny Mercer Foundation Writer's Grove with Goodspeed Musicals, and her theater commissions include Full House Theatre Co., British Youth Musical Theatre, and Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London. Her musical recaps of the Bachelor recently went viral on TikTok.

Despite writing music in such a wide range of genres, Jen's music is united by a keen love for storytelling with song. She prioritizes specific, highly emotional lyrics, melodic earworms, and infectious rhythmic grooves, and conceives of every piece from a dramatic, narrative-driven perspective. She earned a Master's degree in Musical Theater Writing from Goldsmiths University in London and a Bachelor's in Media Music from Brigham Young University.

Text:

My life flows on in endless song
Above earth's lamentation;
I hear the real, though far-off hymn
That hails a new creation.
Through all the tumult and the strife
I hear the music ringing.
It sounds an echo in my soul:
How can I keep from singing?

Although the tempest loudly roars,
I hear the truth, it liveth
But though the darkness 'round me close,
Songs in the night it giveth.
No storm can shake my inmost calm
While to that rock I'm clinging;
Since love is lord of heav'n and earth,
How can I keep from singing?

*The distance grows, the cloud appears;
I've known a broken spirit
I bid farewell and welcome tears
When once again I hear it:
The voices raised in spite of all,
A simple hope they're bringing.
To that old song I still belong;
How can I keep from singing?*

I lift my eyes, the cloud grows thin;
I see the blue above it,
And day by day this pathway smooths
Since first I learned to love it.
*The peace I find within my heart,
A fountain ever springing,
Is mine to love and mine to give;*
How can I keep from singing?

*- Robert Lowry, additional italicized lyrics by
Jennifer Lucy Cook and Garret Lathe*

NOTE: The first known publication of the text was in The New York Observer in August 1868, attributed to "Pauline T" and originally titled "Always Rejoicing." While Robert Lowry has traditionally been credited with the authorship of both the hymn tune and its lyrics, it is important to note that this may be another case of an overlooked female author in our musical history.

For perusal purposes only. Do not copy. How Can I Keep From Singing?

Commissioned by the Youth Chorale of Central Minnesota, Garrett Lathe, Artistic Director

Unison choir and piano

Additional lyrics by
Jennifer Lucy Cook
and Garrett Lathe

Robert Lowry,
arr. by Jennifer Lucy Cook

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Freely ♩ = 76

Unison choir (in octaves) *p*

My life flows on in end-less song a -

Piano *p*

with pedal

5

bove earth's lam - en - ta - tion; — I hear the real, though far - off hymn that

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9

hails a new cre - a - tion. — Through all the tu - mult and the strife I hear the mus - ic

14

ring-ing. — It sounds an e - cho — in my soul: How can I keep from sing-ing? —

19

(SA only) *mf*

Al - though the temp - est loud-ly roars, I

23

(TB only)

hear the truth, it liv-eth — But though the dark - ness 'round me close, songs

27 *(in octaves)*
f
 in the night it giv-eth. — No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that rock I'm

32
 cling-ing; — Since love is lord of heav'n and earth, How can I keep from sing-ing? —

37 *(TB only)* *mf*
 The

42

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dis-tance grows, the cloud ap-pears; I've known a bro - ken spir-it

45

I bid fare-well and wel-come tears, when once a-gain I hear it:

49

(SA only)

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the voi-ces raised in spite of all, a sim-ple

52

hope they're bring-ing. To that old song I still be-

55

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long; How can I keep from sing - ing? Ah_____

8va -----

loco
mf

notable, elevated.

58

Ah_____ Ah_____ Ah_____ Ah_____

(8va) -----

62

Ah_____ Ah_____ Ah_____ I

(8va) -----

mp

mp

(in octaves)

For perusal purposes only. Do not copy.

67

lift my eyes, the cloud grows thin; I see the blue a - bove it, — and day by day this

mp

mf

notable, elevated.

72

mf

path-way smooths since first I learned to love it. — The peace I find with - in my heart, a

reduction, for rehearsal purposes

77

rit.

foun-tain ev - er spring-ing, — is mine to love and — mine to give; How can I keep from

a tempo

82

f

sing - ing? Ah — Ah — Ah — Ah —

f

play

loco

86

mp rit.

How can I keep from sing - ing? — Mm

mp

6