

004.10

SHARA NOVA

I Have Never Loved
Someone (The Way I
Love You)

For SSAATTBB choir

Blue Sword Publishing

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Music and Lyrics by
Shara Nova, 2010
Arr. Nate Thatcher, 2021

Engraving by J. Clay Gonzalez

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I Have Never Loved Someone (The Way I Love You)

for SSAATTBB Choir

Shara Nova, 2010 — arr. Nate Thatcher 2021 — Duration ca. 3'10"

Lyrics

I have never loved someone the way I love you
I have never seen a smile like yours
And if you grow up to be king or clown or pauper
I will say you are my favorite one in town

I have never held a hand so soft and sacred
When I hear you laugh I know heaven's key
And when I grow to be a poppy in the graveyard,
I will send you all my love upon the breeze

And if the breeze won't blow your way, I will be the
sun
And if the sun won't shine your way, I will be the rain
And if the rain won't wash away all your aches and
pains
I will find some other way to tell you you're okay

You're okay
You're okay
You're okay
You're okay
You're okay
You're okay

Divisi

Sopranos, altos, tenors, and basses are each divided in two. Both S1 and S2 sections have occasional, very simple two-part divisi (Page 1 and 2).

Editions

[025.00] Titration, for SATB with divisi

[004.20] I Have Never Loved Someone, Guitar (drop D, notation) and Voice

[004.21] I Have Never Loved Someone, Guitar (drop D, tabs) and Voice

[004.22] I Have Never Loved Someone, Piano or Harp and Voice

[004.30] I Have Never Loved Someone, Voice, Strings, Piano, and Percussion

[004.40] I Have Never Loved Someone, SSAA

Program Note

"I Have Never Loved Someone (The Way I Love You)" is a song about the transcendent power of unconditional love.

"Six months after my son was born, my maternal grandmother transitioned from this life," the composer writes about the song's inception. "I was not only feeling love for my child, but my grandmother's love for me."

Nova's specific experiences inform this meditation on "a universal love, love independent of circumstance." She imagines love like light from the Sun—perpetually shining on the Earth, whether the skies down here be clear, or cloudy.

"I Have Never Loved..." is one of the Shara Nova's most performed and beloved songs, and has appeared as the emotional centerpiece of dozens of My Brightest Diamond concerts since its composition in 2010. The song, dedicated to her son, depicts unyielding love with both clarity and a characteristic lyrical vividness.

Over the years, many have connected with the song's depiction of the emotions that anchor life's core relationships. This arrangement gives choral ensembles the opportunity to share this simple yet powerful

(program note, continued)

tune with their audiences, and with each other.

Speaking of the emotional truths behind the song, Nova writes: “There is so much suffering in this life, and I hope this song helps you feel comforted in this experience on Earth. May you know that it is okay to feel a lot, and that you are part of a big universe who’s essence, I believe, is love itself.”

vocal ranges:

The image displays eight musical staves, each representing a different vocal range. Each staff contains a single musical note with a sharp sign (#) and a diagonal line indicating the range of the voice. The staves are labeled as follows:

- Soprano 1
- Soprano 2
- Alto 1
- Alto 2
- Tenor 1
- Tenor 2
- Bass 1
- Bass 2

The notes are positioned on the following lines of the staves (from top to bottom):

- Soprano 1: 5th line
- Soprano 2: 4th line
- Alto 1: 3rd line
- Alto 2: 2nd line
- Tenor 1: 3rd line
- Tenor 2: 2nd line
- Bass 1: 4th line
- Bass 2: 3rd line

Dedicated to Constantine

I Have Never Loved Someone

(The Way I Love You)

For SSAA Choir

SHARA NOVA

SHARA NOVA (2010)
ARR. NATE THACHER (2021)

Rubato ♩ = 60

pp **p**

Soprano 1
Ng

Soprano 2
Ng

Alto
mp dolce
I have ne-ver loved some-one the way I love you... I have

Tenor 1
Ng

Tenor 2
Ng

Bass
pp **p**
Oh

4

S1
oh oo ah ah oh

S2
oh oo oo ah *p*

A
ne-ver seen a smile like yours, And if you grow up to be king or clown or pau-per I will *mp*

T1
oh oo ah ah oh

T2
oh oo And if you grow up to be king or clown or pau-per *mp*

B
oh oo ah ah oh

8

S1
ah oo

S2
ah ah oo *p*

A
say you are my fav' - rite one in town. I have ne-ver held a hand so soft and *mp*

T1
ah I have ne-ver held a hand so soft and *mp*

T2
ah *pp* *p*

B
ah ooo

A

11

S1
S2
A
T1
T2
B

sa - cred. When I hear your laugh I know hea-ven's key. And when I

p
mp

14

S1
S2
A
T1
T2
B

ah
ah
grow to be a pop - py in the grave - yard, I will send you all my love u-pon
grow to be a pop - py in the grave - yard, I will send you all my love u-pon
ah
ah

B

17

S1 *mp dolce*
 ah And if the breeze won't blow your way, I will be the_

S2 *pp mp pp*
 ah oo ah oo

A1. *pp mp pp*
 the breeze. oo ah oo

A2. *pp mp pp*
 the breeze. oo ah oo

T1 *pp mp pp pp*
 the breeze. oo ah oo

T2 *pp pp mp pp*
 ah oo ah oo

B1. *pp*
 ah

B2. *pp*
 ah

21 **poco accel.** **a tempo** *p*

S1 sun. And if the sun won't shine your way I will be the

S2 sun. And if the sun won't shine your way I will be the

A1 *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* ah And if the sun won't shine your way I will be the

A2 *mp* *pp* *pp* ah if the sun won't shine your way I will be the

T1 *mp* *pp* *mp* *p* ah Ah oo ah be the

T2 *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* ah oo ah oo

B1 *p* oo ah oo

B2 *p* oo ah oo

C

moving forward

stops rushing

forward

a tempo

25

S1 *mf* *ff* *mf*
rain. And if the rain_ won't wash_ a - way all your aches and

S2 *mf* *ff* *mf*
rain. And if the rain_ won't wash_ a - way all your aches and

A1 *mp* *mf* *f* *mp*
rain. And_ if the rain_ won't wash_ a - way all your aches and_

A2 *mf* *f* *mp*
rain. if the rain_ won't wash_ a - way all your aches and

T1 *mp* *mf* *f* *mp*
rain. And_ if the rain_ won't wash_ a - way all your aches and.

T2 *mf* *f* *mp*
ah oo ah all your aches and

B1 *mf* *f* *mf*
ah oo ah ah

B2 *mf* *f* *mf*
ah oo ah ah

29 *p* *mp* *poco rit.*

S1 — pains, I will find some o - ther way to tell you you're o -

S2 — pains, I will find some o - ther way to tell you you're o -

A1 — pains, I will find some o - ther way to tell you you're o -
(quieter than sopranos) -----|

A2 — pains, I will find some o - ther way to tell you you're o -
(quieter than sopranos) -----|

T1 — pains, I will find, will find some o - ther way to tell you you're o -

T2 — pain(s), I will find some o - ther way to tell you you're o -

B1 *p*

B2 *p*

D

poco rit.

33

a tempo

The musical score consists of eight staves for voices, labeled S1, S2, A1, A2, T1, T2, B1, and B2. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. The score begins at measure 33. The tempo is marked 'a tempo' and 'poco rit.' is indicated at the end of the section. The lyrics are as follows:

S1: kay. Ah You're o-kay, ah You're o-kay,

S2: kay. Ah You're o-kay, You're o-kay, You're o

A1: kay. You're o-kay You're o-kay, You're o-kay, You're o-kay, You're o-kay,

A2: kay. Ah, You're o-kay, ah

T1: kay. You're o-kay You're o-kay, You're o-kay, You're o-kay You're o-

T2: kay. Ah, You're o-kay, ah, you're o-kay, ah

B1: Ah, ah You're o-kay,

B2: Ah, You're o-kay, ah

E

a tempo

38 *f* *p*

S1 ah ng oo

S2 *f* *p*
kay, You're o - kay. oo oo

A1 *f* *p*
You're o - kay oo oo

A2 *f* *p*
oo oo

T1 *f* *p*
8 kay, You're o - kay. oo oo

T2 *f* *p*
8 You're o - kay. oo oo

B1 *f* *p*
ah You're o - kay. Oh, oo

B2 *f* *p*
You're o - kay. oo oo