

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 2 3 4

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

not

5 6 7 8

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

Chorus 1

9 10 11

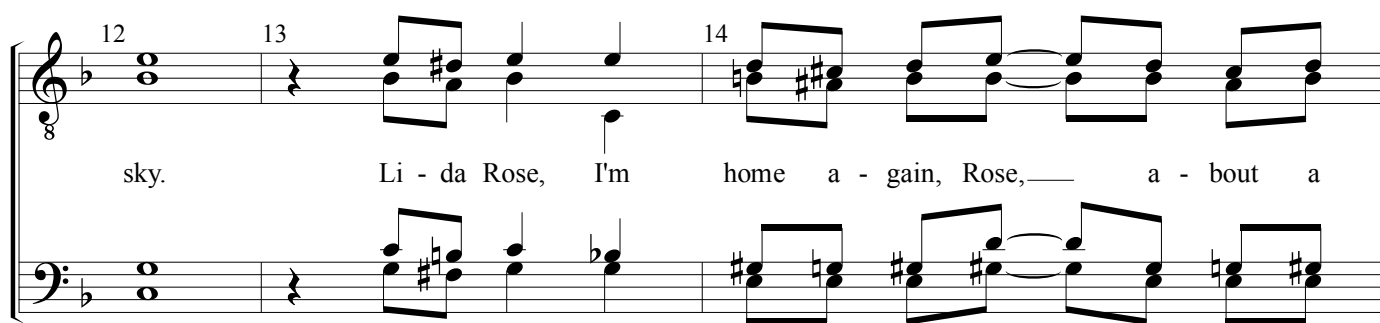
Li - da Rose, I'm home a - gain, Rose, — to get the sun back in the

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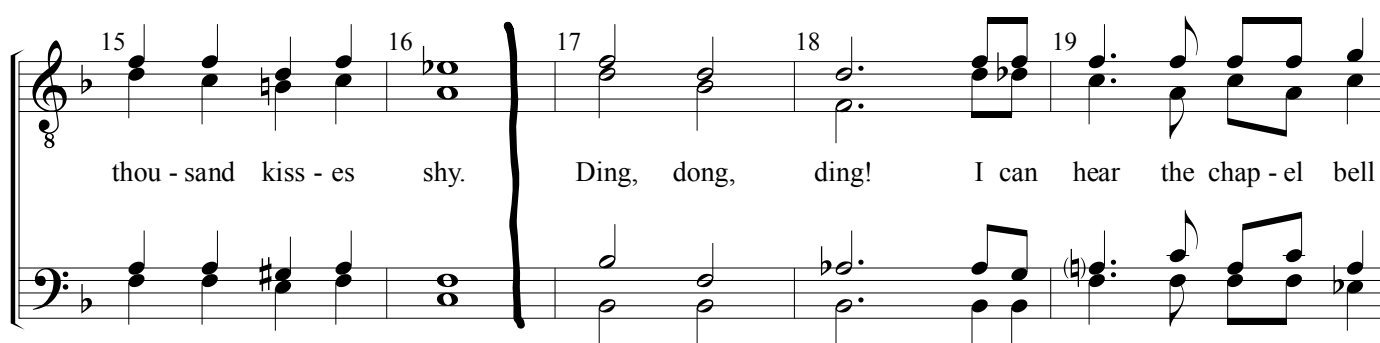
Lida Rose / Will I Ever Tell You

12 13 14



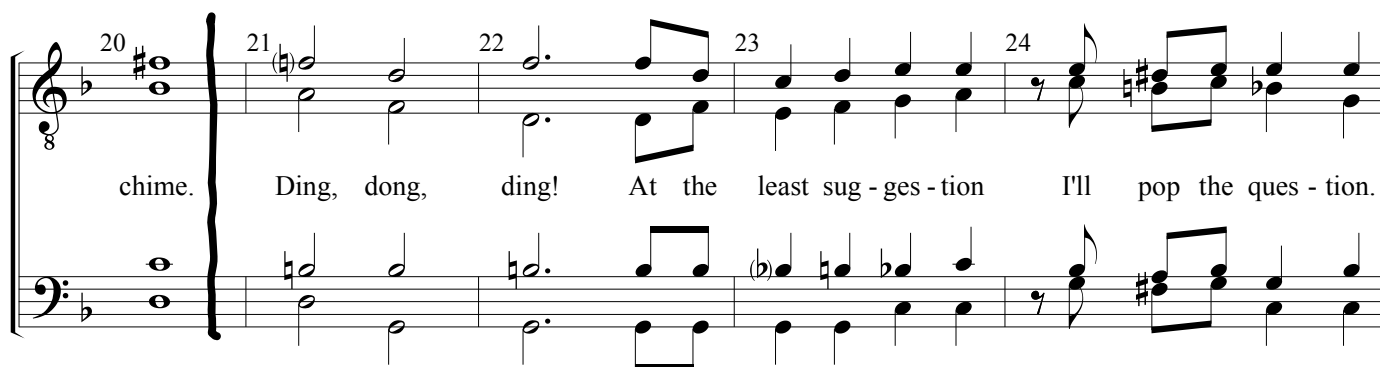
sky. Li - da Rose, I'm home a - gain, Rose, — a - bout a

15 16 17 18 19



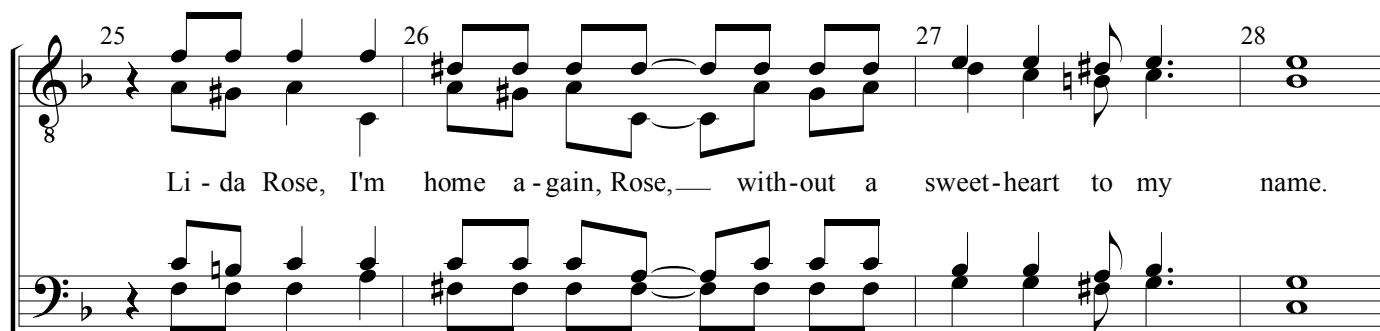
thou - sand kiss - es shy. Ding, dong, ding! I can hear the chap - el bell

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.

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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

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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,

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66 67 68 69 70

oh, yes, for - ev - er. Will I ev - er tell you? Ah,

Chorus 3

71 72 73

Tenor Lead

Women

no. Dream of

Tenor Lead

Men

Li - da Rose, oh, Li - da Rose, oh, Li - da Rose, I'm

Bari Bass

74 75 76

now, dream of then.

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

Lida Rose / Will I Ever Tell You

77 78 x x 79

Dream of a love song that might have

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

This musical system contains measures 77 through 79. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. Measure 77 has a vocal note on G4 and piano chords on G2 and B2. Measure 78 has a vocal note on A4 marked with an 'x' and piano chords on C#3 and E3. Measure 79 has a vocal note on B4 marked with an 'x' and piano chords on F#3 and A3. The piano part includes eighth-note patterns in measures 78 and 79.

80 x 81 82 83

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

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

This musical system contains measures 80 through 83. Measure 80 has a vocal note on G4 marked with an 'x' and piano chords on G2 and B2. Measure 81 has a vocal note on A4 and piano chords on C#3 and E3. Measure 82 has a vocal note on B4 and piano chords on F#3 and A3. Measure 83 has a vocal note on C5 and piano chords on G3 and B3. The piano part includes eighth-note patterns in measures 82 and 83.

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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

This block contains the musical notation for measures 84 through 87. It features a vocal line with lyrics and two piano accompaniment staves. Measure 84 has a vocal note on a whole rest. Measures 85-87 contain the vocal melody and piano accompaniment for the lyrics '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

This block contains the musical notation for measures 88 through 90. It features a vocal line with lyrics and two piano accompaniment staves. Measure 88 has a vocal note on a whole rest. Measures 89-90 contain the vocal melody and piano accompaniment for the lyrics 'gain. Sweet and low, I'll pop the ques - tion. Li - da Rose, I'm home a - gain, Rose, — with - out a'.

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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,

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99 100 *Slower* 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 *Slower*

103 104 105 106

no.

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

Performance Notes

Meredith Willson was a composer, conductor and playwright. Although he composed many popular songs, two symphonies and two Oscar-nominated film scores, he is best-known for writing the book, music and lyrics to **The Music Man**. Willson put years of time and effort into this classic musical, including over 40 revisions and 30 original songs, and his efforts definitely paid off. The production ran for an impressive 1,375 performances on Broadway, won five Tony awards and has twice been adapted for film. The 1962 movie featured the Barbershop Harmony Society's 1950 quartet champion, the **Buffalo Bills**, in the role of the school board quartet.

Lida Rose is one of the most recognizable barbershop songs of all time. The stereotypical image of barbershoppers clad in straw hats and striped vests was certainly reinforced by **The Music Man**. Many a barbershopper had his first taste of the style while performing in this musical.

Inexorably linked to *Lida Rose* is its partner song, *Will I Ever Tell You?* Mo Rector and Nancy Bergman teamed up to create this arrangement, an excellent choice for double ensemble (or men's group with a female soloist). A male quartet could perform this piece alone by skipping measures 37-100.

The late Mo Rector, a prolific arranger for the Barbershop Harmony Society, was its first double gold-medal winner, singing bass in the **Gaynotes** (1958) and **Mark IV** (1969). Mo sang in a touring company of **The Music Man** in the 1960s and in 1985 formed the **Good News!** gospel quartet. That foursome recorded numerous albums and published over a dozen songbooks. Among Mo's secular arrangements are *Ma! (She's Making Eyes at Me)*, *Cruising Down the River* and *I'd Give a Million Tomorrows*.

Nancy Bergman is a gifted barbershop arranger, coach, chorus director and singer. Her quartet the **Mississippi Misses** was the 1954 Sweet Adelines International champion. Nancy began arranging in the 1950s with the help of veteran arranger Floyd Connett. She has more than 500 arrangements to her credit and continues to create music for both male and female quartets and choruses.

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 guidelines. Ask *before* you sing.