

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 ♩ = ♩³♩

Tenor Lead

Men

Bari Bass

1 So here is my love song, 2 not fan-cy or fine. 3 4

5 Li - da Rose, oh, 6 won't you be mine, 7 be mine? 8

not

Chorus 1

9 Li - da Rose, I'm home a - gain, Rose, 10 to get the sun back in the 11

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Lida Rose / Will I Ever Tell You

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

Measures 12-14: Treble and bass staves with lyrics. Measure 12 has a whole note chord in the treble and a whole note chord in the bass. Measure 13 has a half note in the treble and a half note in the bass. Measure 14 has a half note in the treble and a half note in the bass.

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

Measures 15-19: Treble and bass staves with lyrics. Measure 15 has a half note in the treble and a half note in the bass. Measure 16 has a half note in the treble and a half note in the bass. Measure 17 has a half note in the treble and a half note in the bass. Measure 18 has a half note in the treble and a half note in the bass. Measure 19 has a half note in the treble and a half note in the bass.

chime. Ding, dong, ding! At the least sug - ges - tion I'll pop the ques - tion.

Measures 20-24: Treble and bass staves with lyrics. Measure 20 has a half note in the treble and a half note in the bass. Measure 21 has a half note in the treble and a half note in the bass. Measure 22 has a half note in the treble and a half note in the bass. Measure 23 has a half note in the treble and a half note in the bass. Measure 24 has a half note in the treble and a half note in the bass.

Li - da Rose, I'm home a - gain, Rose, — with - out a sweet - heart to my name.

Measures 25-28: Treble and bass staves with lyrics. Measure 25 has a half note in the treble and a half note in the bass. Measure 26 has a half note in the treble and a half note in the bass. Measure 27 has a half note in the treble and a half note in the bass. Measure 28 has a half note in the treble and a half note in the bass.

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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 41

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

Chorus 2

42 43 44 45 46 x

Tenor Lead

Women

Bari Bass

Dream of now, dream of then. Dream of a

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47 x x 48 49 x 50 51

love song that might have been. Do I love you? Oh, yes, I

52 53 54 55 56

love you. And I'll brave-ly tell you, but on - ly when we dream a -

57 58 59 60 61

gain. Sweet and low, sweet and low,

62 x x x 64 65 x 66

how sweet the mem - 'ry, how long a - go. For - ev - er,

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67 68 69 70 71

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

Chorus 3

72 73 74

Tenor Lead
no. Dream of

Bari Bass

Men
72 73 74
Li - da Rose, oh, Li - da Rose, oh, Li - da Rose, I'm

Bari Bass

75 76 77

now, dream of then.

75 76 77

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

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78 79 x x 80

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 78, 79, and 80. It features a vocal line with lyrics and two piano accompaniment staves. Measure 78 has a treble clef and a bass clef. Measure 79 has a treble clef and a bass clef. Measure 80 has a treble clef and a bass clef. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Dream of a love song that might have" for measure 78, and "Li - da Rose, I'm home a - gain, Rose, — a - bout a thou - sand kiss - es" for measures 79 and 80. There are 'x' marks above measures 79 and 80.

81 x 82 83 84

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 81, 82, 83, and 84. It features a vocal line with lyrics and two piano accompaniment staves. Measure 81 has a treble clef and a bass clef. Measure 82 has a treble clef and a bass clef. Measure 83 has a treble clef and a bass clef. Measure 84 has a treble clef and a bass clef. The key signature is one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "been. Do I love you? Oh, yes, I love you." for measures 81 and 82, and "shy. Ding, dong, ding! I can hear the cha-pel bell" for measures 83 and 84. There is an 'x' mark above measure 81.

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85 86 87 88

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 first system of the musical score, measures 85 through 88. It features a vocal line with lyrics and two piano accompaniment staves. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). Measure 85 shows the vocal line starting with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The piano accompaniment consists of a single bass note G2. Measure 86 has a vocal line with a half note G4 and a half note A4. The piano accompaniment has a half note G2 and a half note B2. Measure 87 has a vocal line with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The piano accompaniment has a quarter note G2, a quarter note B2, and a quarter note D3. Measure 88 has a vocal line with a half note G4, a half note A4, and a half note B4. The piano accompaniment has a half note G2, a half note B2, and a half note D3.

89 90 91

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 second system of the musical score, measures 89 through 91. It continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. Measure 89 has a vocal line with a half note G4 and a half note A4. The piano accompaniment has a half note G2 and a half note B2. Measure 90 has a vocal line with a half note G4 and a half note A4. The piano accompaniment has a half note G2 and a half note B2. Measure 91 has a vocal line with a half note G4 and a half note A4. The piano accompaniment has a half note G2 and a half note B2.

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Measures 92-95 of the musical score. The top system shows a vocal line in treble clef and a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The vocal line has lyrics: "sweet and low, how sweet the mem - 'ry," with measure 95 marked with an 'x'. The piano accompaniment consists of chords. The bottom system continues the vocal line with lyrics: "sweet-heart to my name. Li - da Rose, now ev - 'ry - one knows — that I am", with measure 95 marked with an 'x'. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and some eighth-note patterns.

Measures 96-99 of the musical score. The top system shows a vocal line in treble clef and a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The vocal line has lyrics: "how long a - go. — For - ev - er, oh, yes, for -", with measure 97 marked with an 'x'. The piano accompaniment consists of chords. The bottom system continues the vocal line with lyrics: "hop - ing you're the same. — So, here is my love song,", with measure 97 marked with an 'x'. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and some eighth-note patterns.

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100 101 102 103

ev - er. Will I ev - er tell you? Ah,

not fan - cy or fine. Li - da Rose, oh, won't you be

not

This system contains measures 100 through 103. It features a vocal line with lyrics and two piano accompaniment staves. Measure 100 has a vocal note on 'ev - er.' and piano chords. Measure 101 has a vocal rest and piano accompaniment. Measure 102 has a vocal note on 'Will I ev - er tell you?' and piano accompaniment. Measure 103 has a vocal note on 'Ah,' and piano accompaniment. The piano part includes a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

104 105 106 107

no.

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

This system contains measures 104 through 107. Measure 104 has a vocal note on 'no.' and piano accompaniment. Measure 105 has a vocal rest and piano accompaniment. Measure 106 has a vocal note on 'mine?' and piano accompaniment. Measure 107 has a vocal note on 'Li - da Rose.' and piano accompaniment. The piano part continues with a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

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.