

Commissioned by WomenSing through the Marcia Hodges New Music Fund  
 Martin Benvenuto, Artistic Director

# How Can I Keep from Singing

Traditional

Kirstina Rasmussen Collins

With intensity ♩ = 69

*mf*

solo

S

A

*p* repeat text ad libitum\*

"Lamentation"

7

life goes on in end-less song A - bove earth's lam - en - ta - tion\_

12

I hear the real, though far-off hymn That hails a new cre -

"Lamentation"

The musical score is written for three voices: solo, Soprano (S), and Alto (A). It is in the key of D major (two sharps) and 3/4 time. The tempo is marked 'With intensity' at a quarter note equal to 69 beats per minute. The score is divided into three systems. The first system (measures 1-6) features a solo line with rests, followed by Soprano and Alto lines with long, sustained notes labeled 'Lamentation'. The second system (measures 7-11) contains the lyrics 'life goes on in end-less song A - bove earth's lam - en - ta - tion\_'. The third system (measures 12-16) contains the lyrics 'I hear the real, though far-off hymn That hails a new cre -'. The Soprano and Alto parts continue with sustained notes throughout the piece.

\* conductor can choose to have some singers speak text, and others sing an "oo" on given pitches

It is illegal to duplicate this piece by photocopying or any other means.

Those violating the copyright will be punished to the full extent of the law.

© Copyright 2018 for ALL COUNTRIES by Santa Barbara Music Publishing, Inc.

Printed in the U.S.A.

©SBMP.COM - DUPLICATION OF THIS MATERIAL IS AGAINST THE LAW.

17 solo + a few sopranos *mf*

solo a-tion. — Through all the tum - ult and the strife — I

S (tion) — Ah — *mf*

A (tion) — Ah — *mf*

22 solo *mp*

solo hear its mu - sic ring-ing, — It sounds an ech - o —

S *mp* like an echo  
Ah ring-ing ring-ing It sounds an ech - o —

A *mp*  
Ah —

**For Perusal Only**

27 solo

solo in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing? —

S in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing? —

A — — — — — How can I keep from sing-ing? —

32 **più animato, con rubato** ♩ = 76 **mf**

S1 — In pri - son cell — and dun - geon vile Our **mf**

S2 **mp** — In pri - son cell — and dun - geon vile Our **mf**

A **mp** — In pri - son cell — and dun - geon vile — Our **mf**

35

S1 thoughts to them are wing-ing, — When friends by shame are un - de - filed How

S2 thoughts to them are wing-ing — friends un - de - filed How

A thoughts to them are wing-ing, — friends un - de - filed How

**For Perusal Only**

39 **ff** **Maestoso, meno mosso** ♩ = 72

S1 can I keep from sing-ing? — When ty-rants trem-ble — in their fear

S2 **ff** can I keep from sing-ing? — When ty-rants trem-ble — in their fear

A **ff** can I keep from sing-ing? — When ty-rants trem-ble — in their fear

43 *mf*

S1 And hear their death knell ring - ing — When friends re - joice both far and

S2 And hear their death knell ring - ing — friends far and

A And hear death ring - ing — friends far and

46 *senza rubato*

S1 near How can I keep from sing - ing? —

S2 near How can I keep from sing - ing? —

A near How can I keep from sing - ing? —

**For Perusal Only**

49 *p* *f* *ff*

S1 *p* *f* *ff* While

S2 *p* *f* *ff* While

A *p* *f*

\* Each singer selects one text and repeats it ad libitum continuously over notes given

- Above earth's lamentations
- Through all the tumult and the strife.
- When tyrants tremble in their fear
- In prison cell and dungeon vile



54 **With conviction, con moto**

S  
though the temp - est loud - ly roars, I hear the truth, it

A  
*ff*  
While though the temp - est loud - ly roars, I hear the truth,

57

S  
liv - eth. And though the dark - ness 'round me close, Songs

A  
it liv - eth. And though the dark - ness 'round me close,

60 *unrelenting*

S  
in the night it giv - eth. No storm can shake my

A  
Songs in the night it giv - eth. storm can shake my

63

S  
in - most calm While to that rock I'm cling - ing. Since

A  
calm to that rock I'm cling - ing.

66 *meno mosso*

S  
love is Lord of heav'n and earth How can I keep from

A  
love is Lord of heav'n and earth can I keep from

69

S sing - ing?

A sing - ing? *ff* No storm can shake my in - most calm While

72 *rit.* *mf* *freely*

solo Since love is Lord of

S to that rock I'm cling - ing.

A to that rock I'm cling - ing.

75 *A tempo*

solo heav'n and earth How can I keep from sing-ing?

S How can I keep from sing-ing? *mf*

A How can I keep from sing-ing? *mf*

79 *pp*

solo

S

A

*Ms. 77: The echo effect can continue much longer if the director chooses to further divide the choir, perhaps having solo voices echoing one after the other. All groups or soloists are to hold their last note until all have sung.*