

I Had a Voice, But You Taught Me How To Sing

*Commissioned by the University of Texas at San Antonio
in Honor of Mrs. Irma Taute, educator, choir director, inspirer.*

Lyrics by Gary Mabry and Ronnie Sanders

Music by Ronnie Sanders

Soprano
Alto

p There is a song _____ in ev-ery soul _____ long-ing to make _____ the spi - rit

8
S
A
whole _____ On wings of mel-o - dy the mus - ic years _____ to _____ soar, We had no

14
S
A
song un - til you showed us some-thing more. Then you gave the strength _____ to find a

Piano

p

20
S
A
voice _____ to thou-sands of ti - - - mid _____ girls and boys. _____

simile

25
S
A
_____ You helped find a voice _____ to make us glad; It was a

Pno.

30

S
A

song in - side we did not know we had. *p* This song lies so deep _____

T
B

TENORS
BASSES

Pno.

Ad. *

35

S
A

with - in our heart; _____ It just takes one breath _____ for us to

T
B

Pno.

Ad. * simile

40

S
A

start. _____ There was no song to sing, _____ no voice to raise _____ un - til you

T
B

Pno.

46

S
A

see our need and then showed us the way. *mf* Though I could hear you —

T
B

Pno.

51

S
A

taught me how to lis - ten; — I had a heart, but you taught me how to

T
B

Pno.

56

S
A

feel. — Though I could see it was you who gave me vi - sion; —

T
B

Pno.

61 *crescendo* *rit.*

S
A — You brought mu - sic when there was no mel - o - dy. — Now I can

T
B —

Pno. *f*

66 *a tempo*

S
A 1. sing when my heart is feel - ing lone - ly; — Now I can sing when my
2.3. sing when our heart is feel - ing lone - ly; — Now we can sing when our

T
B —

Pno. *a tempo*

71 $\emptyset$

S
A day is filled with grief. — Now I can sing — be - cause you've giv - en me ex -
days are filled with grief. — Now we can sing — be - cause you've giv - en us ex -

T
B —

Pno. $\emptyset$

76 *resolute!* 1.

S A
pres-sion; I had a voice but you taught me how to sing!
pres-sion; We had a voice but you taught us how to

T B

Pno.

81 *SOPRANOS rit. a tempo*
S A
— ALTOS
— *mp* Now when I sing the lone-ly days grow
rit. a tempo

Pno.

86
S A
short-er; Now when I sing I live through the hurt each day can bring.

T B
TENORS *mp*
BASSES

Pno.

Reo. *

I Had a Voice, But You Taught Me How to Sing

91

S
A

rit. *div SI SII A* *a tempo*

Now when I sing the mel - o - dies bring com - fort, I am

rit. *a tempo*

Pno.

96

S
A

strength - ened in my soul each time I sing! Now we can sing.

f

T
B

Pno.

101

S
A

f While learn - ing what's good, what's right, what's wrong, you gave us a mel - o - dy, a

Tenors only

T
B

Pno.

105 *rit.* *D.S. al Coda*

S
A
song, You are the one who brought mu - sic to our soul! _____ Now we can

T
B

Add Bases

Pno.

110 *rit.* *A Bit Slower*

S
A
grief. Now we can sing when our heart is feel - ing lonely; _____

T
B

rit. *A Bit Slower*

Pno.

115

S
A
— Now we can sing when our days are filled with grief. _____ Now we can

T
B
we can sing, _____

Pno.

120

S
A

— sing — be-cause you've giv - en us ex - pres-sion — I had a voice,

T
B

—

Pno.

125

S
A

We share one voice, We lift our voice, thank you for teach - ing

T
B

—

Pno.

130

S
A

us to sing! — to — sing! —

T
B

—

Pno.