

MAY I NEVER LOVE AGAIN

for female voices

Words and Music by SANO MARCO
and JACK ERICKSON

Arrangement by RENEE CRAIG

Verse

Tenor Lead

Oh, my dear, can't you see that you're all the world to me? I can't

Bari Bass

think or do a thing with-out your, your love. I con - fess I'm not so smart, but I'm

love.

think - ing, think-ing of.

6 talk - ing from my heart. You're the one thing in my life I'm think - ing of.

7 x think - ing, think-ing of.

8

*May I Never Love Again***Chorus**

9 10 11

May I nev - er see the sun go down. May I nev - er feel the fall - ing

Detailed description: This block contains the first system of the chorus, measures 9 through 11. It features a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). Measure 9 starts with a double bar line. Measure 10 has a dotted quarter note on 'down.' followed by a half note on 'May'. Measure 11 ends with a double bar line.

12 13 14

rain. If the love that I de - clare is - n't all that's right and fair, may I

Detailed description: This block contains the second system of the chorus, measures 12 through 14. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and moving lines. Measure 12 has a double bar line. Measure 13 has a sharp sign (#) above the bass line. Measure 14 ends with a double bar line.

15 16 17

nev - er, may I nev - er love a - gain. — May I ne - ver see the blue of the

Detailed description: This block contains the third system of the chorus, measures 15 through 17. Measure 15 has a double bar line. Measure 16 has a long horizontal line under the word 'gain.' indicating a breath mark. Measure 17 ends with a double bar line.

18 19 20

sky — nor the moon and stars down lov - er's lane. May I

Detailed description: This block contains the fourth system of the chorus, measures 18 through 20. Measure 18 has a double bar line. Measure 19 has a sharp sign (#) above the bass line. Measure 20 ends with a double bar line.

21 22 23

nev-er live a day if I don't mean what I say. May I nev-er, may I nev-er love a -

Detailed description: This block contains the first system of musical notation, measures 21 through 23. It features a treble and bass clef staff in a key signature of one flat. The melody in the treble clef consists of eighth and quarter notes. The bass line provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines. The lyrics are positioned below the treble staff.

24 25 26 27

gain. Sweet - heart, when I'm with you, I'm not a fool-ish pre -
pre -

Detailed description: This block contains the second system of musical notation, measures 24 through 27. Measure 24 ends with a fermata over the word 'gain.'. Measures 26 and 27 feature triplets of eighth notes in the treble clef. The lyrics continue below the treble staff.

28 29 30 31

tend - er. Sweet - heart, if you love me too, all I pos-sess I'd sur -
tend - er.

Detailed description: This block contains the third system of musical notation, measures 28 through 31. Measures 30 and 31 feature triplets of eighth notes in the treble clef. The lyrics continue below the treble staff.

32 33 34

ren - der. May I nev - er feel your ten - der lips. — May I
you

Detailed description: This block contains the fourth system of musical notation, measures 32 through 34. Measure 32 begins with a double bar line and a repeat sign. Measure 34 ends with a fermata over the word 'lips.'. The lyrics continue below the treble staff.

May I Never Love Again

35 nev - er take my love in vain. 36 You're the an - swer to my pray'r, but if 37 love,

38 your love is - n't there, may I nev - er, no, I'll nev - er love a - 39 love, nev - er love, 40

love a - gain. No, I'll nev - er love a - gain. 41 gain. 42 love a - gain. No, I'll nev - er love a - gain. 43 44

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music. The first system (measures 35-37) features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The second system (measures 38-40) continues the vocal and piano parts. The third system (measures 41-44) concludes the piece with a final vocal phrase and piano accompaniment. The key signature is one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. Measure numbers 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, and 44 are clearly marked above the vocal staff.

Performance Notes

Sano Marco, composer, author, singer and teacher, was born in Russia in 1898. Jack Erickson, composer, author and pianist, was born in Massachusetts in that same year. How they got together is not known, but their one collaboration, *May I Never Love Again*, was truly a winning creation.

The song was first published in 1940 and reached #17 on the hit charts with the recording by **Bob Chester and His Orchestra**. Later many top singers performed it, including Jackie Wilson, Perry Como, Frankie Lane, Tony Bennett and Dennis Day.

This ballad has a rich barbershop history. Renee Craig's arrangement has been sung over the years by many quartets and choruses, both male and female. **Keepsake**, 1992 international champion quartet, sang this chart and recorded it on their CD **Without a Song**.

Because the song has some repetitive material, the challenge for the performer is to make each repetition special and meaningful in order to express the full meaning of the lyrics and to hold the attention of the listener. Thank you, Renee, for another masterpiece of arranging.

As a final note: Questions about the contest suitability of this or any other song/arrangement should be directed to the judging community and measured against current contest rules. Ask *before* you sing.