

OVER THE RAINBOW

as sung by the Second Edition

Words by E.Y. HARBURG

Music by HAROLD ARLEN
Arrangement by ED WAESCHE

Verse freely

Tenor Lead

1 2 3

When all the world is a hope-less jum-ble and the rain-drops tum-ble all a-

Bari Bass

4 5 6 7 8

round, heav-en o-pens a mag-ic lane, mag-ic lane.

And

9 10 11

When all the clouds dark-en up the sky-way, there's a rain-bow high-way to be

when

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Over the Rainbow

12 13 14 15 16

found, — lead - ing from your win - dow pane to a place be - hind the

Detailed description: This block contains the first system of musical notation for measures 12 through 16. It features a grand staff with a treble clef on the upper staff and a bass clef on the lower staff. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). Measure 12 starts with a treble clef and a common time signature. The melody in the treble staff is accompanied by a bass line in the bass staff. The lyrics are: "found, — lead - ing from your win - dow pane to a place be - hind the".

17 18 19 20

sun, — doo - yond the rain, the rain.

sun, — just a step be - yond the rain. —

sun, — doo - yond the rain, the rain.

Detailed description: This block contains the second system of musical notation for measures 17 through 20. It features a grand staff with a treble clef on the upper staff and a bass clef on the lower staff. The key signature has two flats. Measure 17 starts with a treble clef and a common time signature. The melody in the treble staff is accompanied by a bass line in the bass staff. The lyrics are: "sun, — doo - yond the rain, the rain." and "sun, — just a step be - yond the rain. —" and "sun, — doo - yond the rain, the rain." There are 'x' marks above measures 19 and 20, and a dashed line connects measure 18 to measure 19.

Chorus

21 22 23 24

Some - where o - ver the rain - bow, 'way up high, —

Detailed description: This block contains the third system of musical notation for measures 21 through 24 of the chorus. It features a grand staff with a treble clef on the upper staff and a bass clef on the lower staff. The key signature has two flats. Measure 21 starts with a treble clef and a common time signature. The melody in the treble staff is accompanied by a bass line in the bass staff. The lyrics are: "Some - where o - ver the rain - bow, 'way up high, —".

25 26 27 28

there's a land that I heard of once in a lul - la - by. —

Detailed description: This block contains the fourth system of musical notation for measures 25 through 28 of the chorus. It features a grand staff with a treble clef on the upper staff and a bass clef on the lower staff. The key signature has two flats. Measure 25 starts with a treble clef and a common time signature. The melody in the treble staff is accompanied by a bass line in the bass staff. The lyrics are: "there's a land that I heard of once in a lul - la - by. —".

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Some - where

29 30 31 32

Some - where o - ver the rain - bow skies are blue,

Some - where

33 34 35 36

and the dreams that you dare to dream real-ly do

Some-

come true.

37 38 39

day I'll wish up - on a star and wake up where the clouds are far be - hind me.

be - hind,

doo

40 41 42

Where trou-bles melt like lem-on drops, a - way a-bove the chim-ney tops, that's

doo

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43 44 (b) 45 46

where you'll find me. Some - where o - ver the rain - bow

Detailed description: This system contains measures 43 through 46. The melody is in a minor key with a key signature of three flats. Measure 43 starts with a treble clef and a common time signature. The lyrics are: 'where you'll find me. Some - where o - ver the rain - bow'. Measure 44 has a '(b)' above the staff. Measure 45 has a colon after the first note. Measure 46 ends with a double bar line.

47 48 49 (b) 50

blue - birds fly. Birds fly o - ver the rain - bow.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 47 through 50. The melody continues. Measure 47 has a treble clef. The lyrics are: 'blue - birds fly. Birds fly o - ver the rain - bow.'. Measure 48 has a slur over the notes. Measure 49 has a '(b)' above the staff. Measure 50 ends with a double bar line.

51 52 53

Why then, oh, why can't I? doo

If hap - py lit - tle blue - birds fly be - doo

Detailed description: This system contains measures 51 through 53. The melody is more complex with some grace notes. Measure 51 has a treble clef. The lyrics are: 'Why then, oh, why can't I? doo'. Measure 52 has a question mark above the staff. The lyrics are: 'If hap - py lit - tle blue - birds fly be - doo'. Measure 53 has an 'x' above the staff. The lyrics are: 'doo'. Measure 53 ends with a double bar line.

54 55 56

yond the rain - bow, why, oh, why can't I? why can't I?

Detailed description: This system contains measures 54 through 56. The melody is simpler, mostly consisting of chords. Measure 54 has a treble clef. The lyrics are: 'yond the rain - bow, why, oh, why can't I? why can't I?'. Measure 55 has a double bar line. Measure 56 ends with a double bar line.

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Optional key change

44 45 46

find — me. Some - where o - ver the rain - bow

47 48 49 50

blue - birds fly. Birds fly o - ver the rain - bow.

51 52 53

Why then, oh, why can't I? If hap - py lit - tle blue-birds fly be - doo.

54 55 56

yond the rain - bow, why, oh, why can't I, why can't I?

Performance Notes

Over the Rainbow, from the timeless movie *The Wizard of Oz*, won an Academy Award for composer Harold Arlen and lyricist E.Y. "Yip" Harburg in 1939. Born Hyman Arluck in Buffalo, N.Y., Arlen (1905-86) gave the world such hits as *Stormy Weather*, *I Gotta Right to Sing the Blues*, *I've Got the World on a String*, *Blues in the Night* and *Come Rain or Come Shine*. Yip Harburg (1896-1981), born Isidore Hochberg in New York City, penned the lyrics to numerous popular classics, including *It's Only a Paper Moon*, *April in Paris*, *If This Isn't Love* and *Brother, Can You Spare a Dime?*

Over the Rainbow was initially deleted from the film after a preview because MGM head Louis B. Mayer and producer Mervyn LeRoy felt that it "slowed down the picture" and "[sounded] like something for Jeanette MacDonald, not for a little girl singing in a barnyard." However, the persistence of associate producer Arthur Freed and Garland's vocal coach/mentor, Roger Edens, finally carried the day.

Ed Waesche was a premier arranger, coach, quartet singer, certified Arrangement and Music judge, and president of the Barbershop Harmony Society. Among Ed's other many fine arrangements are *Midnight Rose*, *(I'm Afraid) The Masquerade Is Over*, *Sentimental Gentleman from Georgia* and *Heart*.

Sing this song of hope with the deep feeling it deserves. Ed's arrangement was carefully crafted to provide you, the performer, with a built-in plan for dynamic variety. Simply let your crescendos and diminuendos go where the chart leads you. And Ed's embellishments are masterful as well. Anytime you sing more than one note on a given word or syllable, look for a way to alter the feeling slightly to tell the story more effectively.

The key change at measure 45 is wonderfully dramatic but will put some singers into a range they may not be able to handle with good vocal quality. The alternate key change makes this section easier to handle, so be sure to choose the option your ensemble can perform more effectively. Most of all, have a marvelous time singing this all-time great song.

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 guidelines. Ask *before* you sing.