

Dedicated to the memory of Nina Simone (1933-2003)

# I Wish I Knew How It Would Feel To Be Free

For Solo Voice, Men's Chorus and Piano

Words by Billy Taylor & Dick Dallas

Music by Billy Taylor (1921-2010)

arr. Bruce Trinkley

**Steadily**  $\text{♩} = 60$

Piano *mf* *dim.*

4 *unison mp* Hm hm

4 *mp*

9 hm

9 *non cresc.*

13 hm

13

solo voice *mp*

17

hm

*mf*

21

wish I knew how \_\_\_\_\_ it would feel to be free. \_\_\_\_\_ I

*pp* Tenor 1&2

Oo

*mp*

25

wish I could break \_\_\_\_\_ all the chains hold-ing me. \_\_\_\_\_ I

*pp* Bass 1&2

Oo

8 wish I could say \_\_\_\_\_ all the things that I should say. \_\_\_\_\_ Say 'em loud,

Oo

Bass 1

Oo

Bass 2

Oo

8

8 \_\_\_\_\_ say 'em clear \_\_\_\_\_ for the whole world to hear. \_\_\_\_\_

Tenor 1 *mf*

*mp*

Loud! Clear! for the whole world to hear. \_\_\_\_\_

Tenor 2 *mf*

*mp*

Loud! Clear! for the whole world to hear. \_\_\_\_\_

*mf*

*mp*

*mp*

Loud! Clear! for the whole world to hear. \_\_\_\_\_ I

*mf*

*mp*

Loud! Clear! for the whole world to hear. \_\_\_\_\_ I

*f*

37 *mp* Re -

8 *mp* Re -

wish I could share all the love in my heart. Re -

wish I could share all the love in my heart. Re -

37 *mp* *sonore*

41 *mf* I

8 *mf* I

move all the bars that keep us a - part. I

move all the bars that keep us a - part. I

move all the bars that keep us a - part. I

41 *mf*

45 *f crisply*  
 wish you could know what it means to be me. Then you'd see  
 wish you could know what it means to be me. Then you'd see  
 wish you could know what it means to be me. Then you'd see  
 wish you could know what it means to be me. Then you'd see

45 *f crisply*

49 *mp*  
 and a - gree that ev - 'ry man should be free. I  
 and a - gree that ev - 'ry man should be free. I  
 and a - gree that ev - 'ry man should be free.  
 and a - gree that ev - 'ry man should be free.

49

53 *legato*

wish I could give\_ all I'm long - in' to\_ give. I wish I could live\_

*legato*

wish I could give\_ all I'm long - in' to\_ give. I wish I could live\_

*p* *mp*

Oo\_ I wish I could live\_

*p* *mp*

Oo\_ I wish I could live\_

53 *mp legato*

58 *mf solo or tutti*

\_\_\_ like I'm long - in' to live. I wish I \_\_\_ could do \_\_\_ all the

*p*

\_\_\_ like I'm long - in' to live. Oh

*p*

\_\_\_ like I'm long - in' to live. Oh

*p*

\_\_\_ like I'm long - in' to live. Oh

58

**Tutti**

things that I can do. Though I'm way o-ver-due I'd be start-in' a -

Oh I'd be start-in' a -

Oh I'd be start-in' a -

Oh I'd be start-in' a -

**solo voice** *mp* quietly but with abandon

Well, I wish I could be like a bird in the sky.

new. Oo How

new. Oo How

new. Oo How

new. Oo How

73 *cresc. poco a poco*

sweet it would be \_\_\_\_\_ if I found \_\_\_\_\_ I could fly. \_\_\_\_\_ Oh, I'd

*cresc. poco a poco* *f* *div.*

sweet it would be \_\_\_\_\_ if I found \_\_\_\_\_ I could fly. \_\_\_\_\_ Oh, I'd

*cresc. poco a poco* *f*

sweet it would be \_\_\_\_\_ if I found \_\_\_\_\_ I could fly. \_\_\_\_\_ Oh, I'd

*cresc. poco a poco* *f*

sweet it would be \_\_\_\_\_ if I found \_\_\_\_\_ I could fly. \_\_\_\_\_ Oh, I'd

73 *cresc. poco a poco* *f*

77 *with abandon*

soar \_\_\_\_\_ to the sun and look down at the sea. \_\_\_\_\_ Then I'd sing

*unison with abandon*

soar \_\_\_\_\_ to the sun and look down at the sea. \_\_\_\_\_ Then I'd sing

*with abandon*

soar \_\_\_\_\_ to the sun and look down at the sea. \_\_\_\_\_ Then I'd sing

*with abandon*

soar \_\_\_\_\_ the sun and look down at the sea. \_\_\_\_\_ Then I'd sing

77 *with abandon*



81

'cos I know, yeah! And I'd sing 'cos I'd know, yeah! And I'd sing  
 'cos I know, yeah! And I'd sing 'cos I'd know, yeah! And I'd sing  
 'cos I know, yeah! And I'd sing 'cos I'd know, yeah! And I'd sing  
 'cos I know, yeah! And I'd sing 'cos I'd know, yeah! And I'd sing

81

85

'cos I'd know, I know how it feels, oh, I know how it  
 'cos I'd know, I know how it feels, oh, I know how it  
 'cos I'd know, I know how it feels, oh, I know how it  
 'cos I'd know, I know how it feels, oh, I know how it

85

89

*rit.* *ff*

feels \_\_\_\_\_ to be free. \_\_\_\_\_ Yeah, I know \_\_\_\_\_ how it feels, \_\_\_\_\_ Yes, \_\_\_\_\_ I

feels \_\_\_\_\_ to be free. \_\_\_\_\_ Yeah, I know \_\_\_\_\_ how it feels, \_\_\_\_\_ Yes, \_\_\_\_\_ I

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feels \_\_\_\_\_ to be free. \_\_\_\_\_ Yeah, I know \_\_\_\_\_ how it feels, \_\_\_\_\_ Yes, \_\_\_\_\_ I

89

*rit.* *ff*

93 *allarg.*

know how it would feel \_\_\_\_\_ to be free. \_\_\_\_\_

know how it would feel \_\_\_\_\_ to be, feel to be free.

know how it would feel \_\_\_\_\_ to be free. \_\_\_\_\_

know how it would feel \_\_\_\_\_ to be, feel to be free.

93 *allarg.* *sonore*