

Commissioned by the Nova Scotia Choral Federation with support from the Estate of Robbie Smith

Why Can't We

SATB Choir and Piano,
with Guitar chords

Music by Robbie Smith
Words by Robbie Smith and Kathleen Glauser
Arr. Donna Rhodenizer

♩ = 106 Swing the eighths (gently!)

Freely, with whimsy *a tempo loco*

Piano *mp* *mf*

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. (as req.)

gradual accelerando (bar 7-19) arriving at ♩ = 128

G *Dsus⁴ D*

G

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Duration, approx. 4:15

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Why Can't We

19 $\text{♩} = 128$ **A**

S
A

T
B

mp

Touch the same grass, — breathe the same air, —

Pno.

$\text{♩} = 128$
Dsus⁴ D

23 *mp* *mf*

Same gust o' wind ca - res-ses our hair. — we do have a lot in com - mon. —

mf

We do, we do have a lot in com - mon. —

G D

mf *mf*

28 *mp* *mp*

— Shed the same tears — day af - ter day, —

— Walk the good earth — in the

mp

G D

32

mf
We do, we do have a lot in com - mon.
mf
same kind - a way, We do, we do have a lot in com - mon.
G D G Dsus⁴ D
mf

36

f
Why can't
f
So why can't we? Why can't
A *loco* G
f

40

we just get a - long? Why can't we?
we just get a - long? why can't we?
D A

Why Can't We

45

Why can't we just get a - long? _____

Why can't we just get a - long? _____

G D G

mf

50

D

55 **B**

mp *mf*

Neath the same sky, feel the same sun that shines in our eyes. We

mp *mf*

Neath the same moon, feel the same sun that shines in our eyes. We

D

mp

59

do, we do have a lot in com - mon.

G D

mf

mf

63 Tread the same paths, Ah

Tread the same paths, walk the same miles, We

mf

Share the same plea - sures with the same smiles. We

Dsus⁴ D Em D

67

do, we do have a lot in com - mon. So

we do have a lot in com - mon.

G D

Why Can't We

71

why can't we? Why can't we just get a -

f

f

Detailed description: This system contains measures 71 through 74. The vocal line starts with a half note 'why' and a quarter note 'can't' followed by a half note 'we?' with a long dash. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line in the left hand and chords in the right hand. A forte (*f*) dynamic marking is present above the vocal line and below the piano accompaniment.

A G

f

Detailed description: This system shows the piano accompaniment for measures 71-74. The right hand plays chords, with a chord labeled 'A' above the first measure and a chord labeled 'G' above the last measure. The left hand plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. A forte (*f*) dynamic marking is located below the first measure.

75

long? Why can't we?

Detailed description: This system contains measures 75 through 78. The vocal line has a long note 'long?' followed by a quarter rest, then a half note 'Why', a quarter note 'can't', and a half note 'we?' with a long dash. The piano accompaniment continues with the same eighth-note bass line and chords.

D A

Detailed description: This system shows the piano accompaniment for measures 75-78. The right hand plays chords, with a chord labeled 'D' above the first measure and a chord labeled 'A' above the last measure. The left hand continues with the eighth-note bass line.

79

Why can't we just get a - long?

Detailed description: This system contains measures 79 through 82. The vocal line has a half note 'Why', a quarter note 'can't', a half note 'we', a quarter note 'just', a half note 'get', and a long note 'a - long?' with a long dash. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line and chords. A crescendo hairpin is visible above the piano accompaniment.

G D

f

Detailed description: This system shows the piano accompaniment for measures 79-82. The right hand plays chords, with a chord labeled 'G' above the first measure and a chord labeled 'D' above the last measure. The left hand continues with the eighth-note bass line. A forte (*f*) dynamic marking is located below the last measure.

83

Musical score for measures 83-86. The top two staves are empty. The piano accompaniment starts at measure 83 with a G chord and continues through measure 86 with a D chord. The dynamic is marked *mf*.

87

Musical score for measures 87-90. The vocal line begins at measure 87 with the lyrics "Got the same love — deep down in - side —". The piano accompaniment continues. A C chord is indicated above measure 87. Dynamics are marked *mf* for the vocal line and *mp* for the piano accompaniment.

91

Musical score for measures 91-94. The vocal line continues with the lyrics "Feel the same ebb — and flow of the tide. — We do, we do have a lot in". The piano accompaniment continues. A G chord is indicated above measure 93. Dynamics are marked *mf* for the vocal line and *mp* for the piano accompaniment.

Why Can't We

95

com - mon. _____ Feel the same joy _____ feel the same pain, _____

D

99

We do, we do have a lot in

Go - in' in cir - cles a - gain and a - gain. We do,

G D G D G

103

com - mon. _____ So why can't we? _____ Why can't

Dsus⁴ D A G

108

we just — get a - long? — Why can't — we? —

D A

113

Why can't we just — get a - long? —

G D

117

D *mf* — *f*
Why (Why?) Tell me, why can't we just get a - long? —

We

G Dsus⁴D G

Why Can't We

122 *mf*

Why? _____ can't we just get a - long? We do have a lot in

do have a lot in com-mon. _____

D G *mf*

127 *mp*

com-mon. _____ Why can't we get a - long? We do have a lot in

D G *mp*

131 *molto rit. divisi*

com-mon. _____ Why can't we? _____

D G D *molto rit. mp*