

A Place in the Choir by Bill Staines
arranged for SSA with piano/keyboard accompaniment by Douglas Coombes

A Place in the Choir

for S.S.A. Choir & piano/keyboard

words & music by
BILL STAINES
arranged by
DOUGLAS COOMBES



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Lindsay Choral Series



Bill Staines, singer-songwriter, was born on 6 February 1947 in Medford, Massachusetts, USA. His style derives from the folk tradition with wide-ranging subject matter and age-appropriateness. Though largely brought up in Lexington, Massachusetts he began his professional life in Cambridge (Massachusetts) in the early 60s. Once established, he began touring a few years later and in 1975 became National Yodelling Champion at the Kerrville Folk Festival in Texas. His songs have been recorded by many well-known artists, including Peter, Paul and Mary, Nanci Griffith, and Celtic Thunder and they also appear in numerous collections for children. His own recorded output is also considerable with 27 albums to his name, as of 2020. As a left-handed guitarist, and playing a normal guitar upside-down, Bill Staines has had to develop his own fingerings and picking style, which is reflected in the piano accompaniment of this arrangement by Douglas Coombes. Other songs which have achieved particular success are *Bridges*, *Crossing the Water*, *Sweet Wyoming Home*, *The Roseville Fair*, *Child of Mine* and *River*. *A Place in the Choir* dates from the 1980s.

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*Dedicated to Anne Bunker, Chairman of The Amici Singers, Bedfordshire, England,
in appreciation of all her daily work in collating all the messages, letters, videos etc.,
from choir members and friends and sending them out to all choir members,
thus keeping everyone in touch during the Covid-19 lockdown of 2020*

A PLACE IN THE CHOIR

words & music: BILL STAINES
arranged by Douglas Coombes

Moderato (♩=80)

Soprano 1 *f* All God's crea-tures got a place in the choir, All God's crea-tures got a

Soprano 2 *f* All God's crea-tures got a place in the choir, All God's crea-tures got a

Alto *f* All God's crea-tures got a place in the choir, All God's crea-tures got a

Piano *f*

Moderato (♩=80)

5 *rall.* **Allegro** (♩=80)

S.1 place in the choir. _____

S.2 place in the choir, the choir. _____

A. place in the choir, the choir. _____

Pno. *rall.* *mf* *f* **Allegro** (♩=80)

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10

Pno.

14

S.1

S.2

A.

Pno.

f All God's crea-tures got a

f All God's crea-tures got a

f All God's crea-tures got a

f

3

17

S.1

S.2

A.

Pno.

place in the choir, — Some sing low and some sing high - er

place in the choir, — Some sing low and some sing high - er

place in the choir, — Some sing low and some sing high - er

20 *f*

S.1
Some sing loud on the te - le-phone wire, — Some just clap their

S.2
Some sing loud on the te - le-phone wire, — Some just clap their

A.
Some sing loud on the te - le-phone wire, — Some just clap their

Pno. *f*

23

S.1
hands, their paws or a - ny-thing they got now. *mf* Lis-ten to the top where the

S.2
hands, their paws or a - ny-thing they got now.

A.
hands, their paws or a - ny-thing they got now.

Pno. *mf*

3

Optional solo

26

S.1
lit - tle bird sings, And the me - lo - dies and the high notes ring - ing,

S.2
Optional solo *f*
The

A.
-

Pno.

29

S.1
(Tutti) *f*
And the

S.2
hoot owl cries o - ver ev - 'ry - thing, - And the
(Tutti) *f*

A.
(Tutti) *f*
And the

Pno.

SAMPLE
NOT FOR
REPR

Optional solo

mf

31

S.1 black-bird dis - a - grees. Sing-ing in the night time,

S.2 black-bird dis - a - grees.

A. black-bird dis - a - grees.

Pno. *mf*

3

34

S.1 sing-ing in the day When the lit - tle duck quacks and he's on his way,

A. Optional solo *mf*
And the

Pno.

37

(Tutti) *mf*

S.1
And the por-cu-pine talks to him - self.____

S.2
And the por-cu-pine talks to him - self.____

A.
ot-ter has-n't got much to say, And the por-cu-pine talks to him - self.____

Pno. *mf*

41

f

S.1
All God's crea-tures got a place in the choir, Some sing low and some sing high - er

S.2
All God's crea-tures got a place in the choir, Some sing low and some sing high - er

A.
All God's crea-tures got a place in the choir, Some sing low and some sing high - er

Pno. *f*

45

S.1 *f* Some sing loud on the te-le-phone wire,— Some just clap their hands, their paws or

S.2 *f* Some sing loud on the te-le-phone wire,— Some just clap their hands, their paws or

A. *f* Some sing loud on the te-le-phone wire,— Some just clap their hands, their paws or

Pno. *f*

49

S.1 a-ny-thing they got now.

S.2 a-ny-thing they got now.

A. a-ny-thing they got now.

Pno. *f*

53

Pno.

57

S.1

Optional solo *mf*

While the

S.2

Optional solo *mf*

Dogs and the cats they take up the mid-dle,

A.

Pno.

mf

3

60

S.1

ho-ney bee hums,

S.2

Optional solo *mf*

and the cric - ket fid-dles,

A.

Optional solo *f*

The don-key brays and the

Pno.

f

SAMPLE NOT FOR REPRO

63

(Tutti) *mf*

S.1 And the old gray bad-ger sighs.

(Tutti) *mf*

S.2 And the old gray bad-ger sighs.

(Tutti) *mf* po-ny neighs, And the old gray bad-ger sighs. Optional solo *f* Lis-ten to the bass it's

Pno.

67

S.1

S.2

A. us on the bot-tom When the bull frog croaks and the hip - po - pot - a - mus,

Pno.

70

S.1 (Tutti) *f*
And the old cow just goes moo._____

S.2 (Tutti) *f*
And the old cow just goes moo._____

A. (Tutti) *f*
Moans and groans with a big t' do, And the old cow just goes moo._____

Pno. *f*

74

S.1 *f*
All God's crea-tures got a place in the choir, Some sing low and some sing high-er

S.2 *f*
All God's crea-tures got a place in the choir, Some sing low and some sing high-er

A. *f*
All God's crea-tures got a place in the choir, Some sing low and some sing high-er

Pno. *f*

78

S.1 *f*
Some sing loud on the te-le-phone wire,— Some just clap their hands, their paws or

S.2 *f*
Some sing loud on the te-le-phone wire,— Some just clap their hands, their paws or

A. *f*
Some sing loud on the te-le-phone wire,— Some just clap their hands, their paws or

Pno. *f*

S.1
a - ny-thing they got now.

S.2
a - ny-thing they got now.

A.
a - ny-thing they got now.

Pno. *f*

3

86

S.1

S.2

A.

Pno.

90

S.1

S.2

A.

Pno.

mf

It's a sim-ple song, a lit-tle song ev - 'ry - where By the

mf

It's a sim-ple song, a lit-tle song ev - 'ry - where By the

mf

It's a sim-ple song, a lit-tle song ev - 'ry - where By the

3

93

S.1 *mf*
ox and the fox and the grizz-ly bear, The do-pey al-li-ga-tor and the hawk a-bove, The

S.2 *mf*
ox and the fox and the grizz-ly bear, The do-pey al-li-ga-tor and the hawk a-bove, The

A. *mf*
ox and the fox and the grizz-ly bear, The do-pey al-li-ga-tor and the hawk a-bove, The

Pno. *mf*

97

S.1 *p* sly old wea-sel and the tur - tle dove. All God's crea-tures got a

S.2 *p* sly old wea-sel and the tur - tle dove. All God's crea-tures got a

A. *p* sly old wea-sel and the tur - tle dove. All God's crea-tures got a

Pno. *p*

100

S.1
place in the choir, Some sing low and some sing high-er Some sing loud on the

S.2
place in the choir, Some sing low and some sing high-er Some sing loud on the

A.
place in the choir, Some sing low and some sing high-er Some sing loud on the

Pno.

104

S.1
te-le-phon e wire, Some just clap their hands, their paws or a-ny-thing they got now.

S.2
te-le-phon e wire, Some just clap their hands, their paws or a-ny-thing they got now.

A.
te-le-phon e wire, Some just clap their hands, their paws or a-ny-thing they got now.

Pno.

108

S.1 *f*
All God's crea-tures got a place in the choir, — Some sing low and

S.2 *f*
All God's crea-tures got a place in the choir, — Some sing low and

A. *f*
All God's crea-tures got a place in the choir, — Some sing low and

Pno. *f*

111

S.1 *f*
some sing high-er Some sing loud on the te-le-phone wire, — Some just clap their

S.2 *f*
some sing high-er Some sing loud on the te-le-phone wire, — Some just clap their

A. *f*
some sing high-er Some sing loud on the te-le-phone wire, — Some just clap their

Pno. *f*

Moderato (♩=80)

115

S.1 *f*
hands, their paws or a-ny-thing they got now. All God's crea-tures got a

S.2 *f*
hands, their paws or a-ny-thing they got now. All God's crea-tures got a

A. *f*
hands, their paws or a-ny-thing they got now. All God's crea-tures got a

Pno. Moderato (♩=80)

119

S.1 *ff* *rall. div.*
place in the choir, All God's crea-tures got a place. in the choir. —

S.2 *ff*
place in the choir, All God's crea-tures got a place. in the choir. —

A. *ff* *div.*
place in the choir, All God's crea-tures got a place. in the choir. —

Pno. *rall.* *sfz*

also from Lindsay Music . . .

UNISON [opt.2nd part]

Douglas Coombes

- All in the Morning [3-part canon in chorus]
- Ancient Times Songbook - 15 songs ideal for history projects
- Away in a Manger (arr.)
- Carols of the Elements
- Chance to Sing (A) [10 songs, piano accomp.
copiable melody parts & CD]
- Chay Chay Cooley - 17 action songs from around the world
- Christ Child's Lullaby (The)
- Christmas Children (The)
- Dog and a Bee (A)
- Do we listen? - our world in danger
- Dreams of Africa - a song for elephants
- Four songs from Ting Tang the Elephant
- Geminee Gemini (Animal Magic sea-lion)
- Music of our Life(The)
- New Beginning (A)
- Panda
- Pandemonium
- Rain-Forest
- Sing Around the World-[53 songs] Piano & Melody editions (arr.)
- Sing the Classics [20 songs] Piano & Melody editions (arr.)
- Sing to the Lord of Heaven
- Sing with us, Share our joy (opt.2nd part and/or SATB)
- Song Makers (The)
- Two Winter Songs
- Up! Good Christen Folk (arr.)
- We Are the Future
- Whales-Swimming Free
- Whole World's Singing of Bethlehem (The)

• = suitable for Christmas

Franklyn Gellnick

Our faith in Life

Robert Latham

•How can I know?

David Porritt

•Advent Carol (arr.Coombes)

Tracey Redhead

Lord of all Creation

Adrian Stark

•Jesus is Born

2, 3 & 4 Part UPPER VOICES

Douglas Coombes

- All in the Morning [unison verse 3-part canon in chorus]
- Anthem for doomed youth
- Chatter with the angels (a cappella 20 songs & rounds)
- Come Thou Long Expected Jesus
- Comic Duet for Two Cats - Rossini (arr.)
- Get holly and ivy
- God Be Merciful Unto Us...Psalm 67
- Hot Hallelujah [after G. F. Handel]
- How Much My Heart Does Love to Sing
- Infancy of Christ (The) (Narrator, SSA choir & keyboard)
- I Was Glad...Psalm 122
- Keeper (The) (arr.)
- King Arthur and His Sons (arr.)
- Life has loveliness to sell
- Lindsay Carol Book (arr.)-10 carols
- Lindsay Folk Book (arr.)-10 folk songs
- Make a joyful noise...Psalm 100
- Missa Pro Civitate Kortrijk (full length Mass)-Latin
- O Little Town of Bethlehem - new setting
- Pastime with Good Company (arr.)
- Psalm 24 (The Earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof...)
- Psalm 67 (God be merciful unto us and bless us)
- Psalm 100 (Make a joyful noise unto the Lord)
- Rocky, Rocky Road (arr.)
- Round the Classics - 17 rounds based on classical themes (arr.)
- See Amid the Winter Snow
- Shall I compare thee to a Summer's day?
- Shenandoah (arr.)
- Sing a-round Christmas (3 - 9 part rounds)
- Sing with us, Share our joy (SA opt. SATB)
- Songkit (10 folksongs mix & match arrangements
from SA to SSAAB)
- Tapestry of Songs from the British Isles (A) (arr.)
- Three Kings (The)
- Travellers (melody by Ann Gammell) arr.
- Two Blessings (Deep Peace & Day by day)

• Viva Christo Rey – suite of 8 carols from
Latin America

Wade in the Water (arr.)

Water of Tyne (The) (arr.)

We are the music-makers

• What Month was Jesus born in? (arr.)

What Shall We Do with the Drunken Sailor (arr.)

Who is Sylvia?

You spotted snakes

Beryl Foster

•Three Norwegian Carols (arr.)

Sharon Hesketh

•Love had come down (arr. Coombes)

•The star so bright (arr Coombes)

Elizabeth Keetley-Smith

•Hodie Christus natus est

Robert Latham

Gloria (SSA a cappella)

Laudamus te (SSA a cappella)

Love willful, wan and wonderful (SSA a cappella)

Adrian Pitts

Christmas bells (SSA & piano/keyboard)

St Luke's Carol (SSA & piano/keyboard)

The King of love (SSA & piano/keyboard)

This Endris night (SSA & piano/keyboard)

Laura Shur

Bells of Christmas Eve (The) (*Dinga-linga-long*)

Come you not from Newcastle? (SSA & piano)

Standin' in the need of prayer (SSAA & piano)

Take Control (SA & piano)

Time for man go home: arr. (SA & piano)

also from Lindsay Music ...

SATB

Douglas Coombes

- Bethlehem Calls (trad. Korean – English words)
- Brightest and Best – anthem
- Come and join the dance (choral suite)
- Dona Nobis Pacem - anthem-Latin
- Hark! the Herald Angels Sing -new setting
- Hot Hallelujah [rock version after G. F. Handel]
- Infancy of Christ (The) (Narrator, SATB choir & keyboard)
- In Paradisum - from Requiem-Latin
- King of Glory, King of Peace
- Little child there is y born (A)
- Lord of our Life
- Mass [SATB soli,SATB choir & orchestra]-Latin
- Nova, nova (SATB choir and community chorus)
- O Little Town of Bethlehem - new setting
- Peanut Vendor arr (SATB a cappella)
- Pie Jesu - from Requiem-Latin
- Praise ye the Lord from the Heavens...Psalm 148
(SA, SATB & Piano)
- Raise High the Song – a cycle of 7 songs about birds
- Requiem [SATB soli, SATB choir & orchestra]-Latin
- Sing with us, Share our joy (SA, SATB & Piano)
- Songkit (10 mix & match folksong arrangements from SA to SSA/TB)

Spring (a cappella)

Te Deum (Sop.solo, SATB choir, Brass ensemble, timps, organ)

The Bravest Man (a dramatic cantata) 2 narrators, Ten & Bar solo, SATB chorus, piano etc.

This Train

Three Latin Motets (SATB choir, Flute, Harp & Cello or Piano) - Latin

To Daffodills (SATB a cappella)

Two Blessings (Deep Peace & Day by day)

We are the music-makers

World in Union (Holst/Skarbeck) (arr.)

World's Redeemer (The) - Soprano solo, SATB choir, organ & narrator] [suitable for Easter]

Yellow Bird (arr) (a cappella)

Kathleen Dodds

- Mary's Carol

Walter G. Edmonds

- On This the Night of the Advent

G.F.Handel (attrib.)

- Joy to the World (arr.Coombes) SA, SATB, keyboard

James Robertson

Bridges not walls

Silent Cry (The) - a cappella

TTBB

Douglas Coombes

- Full fathom five (a choral suite): (arr.)
 - La Pique* (English trad)
 - Full Fathom Five* (Henry Purcell)
 - A-roving* (English trad.)
 - Mary Ann* (Canadian trad.)
 - Bound for the Rio Grande* (English trad.)
- Golden Slippers (arr.)
- Hot Hallelujah [after G.F.Handel]
- I walk in beauty (Native American trad.)
- Polly Perkins of Paddington Green (arr.)
- Songs of the Old West (choral suite): (arr)
 - Golden Slippers*
 - Git along, little dogies*
 - The Dying Cowboy*
 - Now I walk in beauty*
 - Goodbye oldt paint*
 - Li'l Liza Jane*
- Two Blessings
 - Deep peace*
 - Day by day*
- We are the music-makers

• = suitable for Christmas

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