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The Barbershop Harmony Society

I'M GONNA LIVE TILL I DIE

as sung by *KEEPSAKE*

Words and Music by AL HOFFMAN,
WALTER KENT and MANN CURTIS

Arrangement by the WESTERN CONTINENTALS
and GREG VOLK

Tenor Lead

Bari Bass

1 I'm gon-na live till I die. I'm gon-na laugh 'stead-a

2

3

4 cry. I'm gon-na fill my cup un-til my num-ber's up. I'm gon-na

5

6

7 live, live, live un-til I die. They're gon-na say, "Hey, what a

8

9

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I'm Gonna Live Till I Die

10 11 12

guy!" I'm gon-na play for the sky. Ain't gon-na
sky.

13 14 15

miss a thing. I'm gon-na have my fling. I'm gon-na live, live, live un-til I

16 17 18

die. The blues I'll lay low. I'll make 'em stay low. They'll nev - er

19 20 21

trail o - ver my head. I'll be a dev - il till I'm an
head.

But un - til then: _____

an - gel. _____ But un - til then: _____ Glo - ry Hal - le - lu - jah!

But un - til then: _____

Detailed description: This system contains the first three measures of the song. Measure 22 starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a common time signature. The melody begins with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The bass line consists of a half note G3 and a half note F#3. Measure 23 is a whole rest in the treble and a half note G3 in the bass. Measure 24 features a treble clef with a melody of quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass line has a half note G3 and a half note F#3. The lyrics 'an - gel. But un - til then: Glo - ry Hal - le - lu - jah!' are written below the notes.

Dance, _____ gon - na fly. _____ I'll take a chance rid - in'

Detailed description: This system contains measures 25-27. Measure 25 has a treble clef with a melody of quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass line has a half note G3 and a half note F#3. Measure 26 has a treble clef with a melody of quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass line has a half note G3 and a half note F#3. Measure 27 has a treble clef with a melody of quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass line has a half note G3 and a half note F#3. The lyrics 'Dance, gon - na fly. I'll take a chance rid - in'' are written below the notes.

high. _____ Gon - na take this town _____ and turn it up - side _____ down. I'm gon - na

rit.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 28-30. Measure 28 has a treble clef with a melody of quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass line has a half note G3 and a half note F#3. Measure 29 has a treble clef with a melody of quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass line has a half note G3 and a half note F#3. Measure 30 has a treble clef with a melody of quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass line has a half note G3 and a half note F#3. The lyrics 'high. Gon - na take this town and turn it up - side down. I'm gon - na' are written below the notes. A 'rit.' marking is placed above measure 30.

live, live, live, live, live _____ un - til I

Detailed description: This system contains measures 31-34. Measure 31 has a treble clef with a melody of quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass line has a half note G3 and a half note F#3. Measure 32 has a treble clef with a melody of quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass line has a half note G3 and a half note F#3. Measure 33 has a treble clef with a melody of quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass line has a half note G3 and a half note F#3. Measure 34 has a treble clef with a melody of quarter notes G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass line has a half note G3 and a half note F#3. The lyrics 'live, live, live, live, live un - til I' are written below the notes.

I'm Gonna Live Till I Die

The musical score is presented in two systems. The first system consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The vocal line starts with the lyrics 'die, till I' and includes measure numbers 35, 36, 37, and 38. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line. The second system continues the vocal line with 'die!' and includes measure numbers 39, 40, 41, and 42. The piano accompaniment continues with a similar eighth-note bass line. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 8/8.

Performance Notes

The 1950 song *I'm Gonna Live Till I Die* was introduced by Danny Scholl and popularized by Frankie Laine. This high-energy piece has since been covered by such artists as Frank Sinatra, Sarah Vaughan and Queen Latifah.

Al Hoffman also composed *A Dream Is a Wish Your Heart Makes*, *Fit As a Fiddle* and *Mairzy Doats*. Walter Kent wrote *I Cross My Fingers*, *I'll Be Home for Christmas* and *(There'll Be Bluebirds Over) The White Cliffs of Dover*. Last but not least, Mann Curtis gave us *The Jones Boy*, *Let It Be Me* and *My Dreams Are Getting Better All the Time*.

Our 1968 international quartet champion, the **Western Continentals**, woodshedded this arrangement, to the best recollection of baritone Paul Graham. Talented arranger and singer Greg Volk revised the chart for **Keepsake**, who won gold in 1992.

This song makes a great opener, or perhaps your group could sing it as an encore. Since the piece is rather short, you will need to perform it with considerable energy and drive. Free things up from measure 30 on, being sure to enjoy the ringing chords in that measure. Most of all, have a great time reminding your audiences to live for today!

As a final note: Questions about the 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.