

I WANT TWO WINGS

SSA, accompanied

African-American Spiritual

Arranged by
EARLENE RENTZ

ALSO AVAILABLE

Two-Part, BL281

Three-Part Mixed, BL584

Accompaniment Track on BLCD0T23

Full Version Vocal Demo on BLCD0V23

Range:	SI	c - d'
	SII	c - c'
	A	b - c'

Language: English

Use: General, contest/festival

Time: Approx. 1:52

*Difficulty: Moderate

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Performance Notes

This arrangement of two African-American spirituals is an easy and effective way to teach choral students to sing in harmony. The lesser known of the two spirituals, *I Want Two Wings*, is the melody with which the more familiar *I Got Shoes* is paired. Most of the harmonic techniques used in the composition of this arrangement are created through the use of countermelodies, imitation, ostinati, and partner songs. The key change leads to homophonic harmonies that primarily use easily accessible intervals (unisons and thirds), as attention has been given to voice leading.

Students will enjoy the energy of this arrangement, and the use of dynamics makes it an excellent learning tool toward comprehensive musicianship. Enjoy!

E.R.

I WANT TWO WINGS

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African-American Spiritual

Arranged by EARLENE RENTZ (ASCAP)

Lively swing (♩ = 126-132) (♩♩ = $\overline{\overline{\overline{\text{♩♩♩}}}}$)

Piano introduction in 4/4 time, marked *mf*. The right hand features a melody of eighth and quarter notes, while the left hand provides a bass line with eighth and quarter notes. The piece concludes with a final chord in the right hand.

First vocal entry (Soprano, Alto, Tenor) and piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with a rest, followed by the lyrics "Oh, Lord, I want two wings to cov - er my face, Oh, Lord, I". The piano accompaniment continues with the same melody as the introduction. A measure rest of 5 measures is indicated above the vocal line.

Second vocal entry and piano accompaniment. The vocal line continues with the lyrics "want two wings to cov - er my face, Oh, Lord, I want two wings to". The piano accompaniment continues with the same melody. A measure rest of 9 measures is indicated above the vocal line.

cov - er my face, — and the world can do me no harm. —

Oh, Lord, I want two gold - en shoes for my feet, Oh, Lord, I

Oh, Lord, I want two gold - en shoes, I

want two gold - en shoes for my feet, Oh, Lord, I want two gold - en

want two gold - en shoes, — I want two gold - en

S shoes for my feet,___ and the world can do me no harm.____

S shoes for my feet,___ and the world can do me no harm.____

A shoes and the world can do me no harm.____

[22] *mp* I got shoes,___ you got shoes,___ chil - dren got

f I got shoes,___ you got shoes,___ all God's chil - dren got

f I got shoes,___ you got shoes,___ all God's chil - dren got

[22]

26

shoes.____ I got shoes,____ and the

shoes. I got shoes,____ you got shoes,____ and the

shoes.____ I got shoes,____ you got shoes,____ and the

26

30

world can do me no harm.____ I got my gold - en

world can do me no harm.____ *f* Oh, Lord, I want two gold - en

world can do me no harm.____ I got shoes,____

30

shoes, I got my gold - en shoes, I

shoes for my feet, Oh, Lord, I want two gold - en shoes for my feet, Oh, Lord, I

you got shoes, — all God's chil - dren got shoes, —

34 got my gold - en shoes, and the world can do me no harm..

want two gold - en shoes for my feet, — and the world can do me no harm..

I got shoes, — you got shoes — and the world can do me no harm..

34

Musical score for three voices and piano accompaniment, measures 37-40. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The piano part features a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The vocal parts are arranged in three staves. The lyrics are: "Now I got a harp, — you got a harp, —". The piano part includes a forte (*f*) dynamic marking and a measure number 38.

Musical score for three voices and piano accompaniment, measures 41-44. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The piano part features a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The vocal parts are arranged in three staves. The lyrics are: "all God's chil - dren got a harp. — Oh, Lord, I". The piano part includes a *sub. p* (subito piano) dynamic marking and a *mf* (mezzo-forte) dynamic marking. The measure number 38 is also present.

43

want a gold - en harp to play, Oh, Lord, I want a gold - en

want a gold - en harp to play, Oh, Lord, I want a gold - en

want a gold - en harp to play, Oh, Lord, I want a gold - en

43

mf

47

harp, — Oh, Lord, I want a gold - en harp to play, —

harp, — Oh, Lord, I want a gold - en harp to play, —

harp, — Oh, Lord, I want a gold - en harp to play, —

47

f 50 *sub. mp*

I want my wings to fly, a gold - en harp to play, and I'll

f *sub. mp*

I want my wings to fly, a gold - en harp to play, and I'll

f *sub. mp*

I want my wings to fly, a gold - en harp to play, and I'll

f 50 *sub. mp*

cresc. 54 *f*

wear my gold - en shoes all o - ver God's heav - en, —

cresc. *f*

wear my gold - en shoes all o - ver God's heav - en, —

cresc. *f*

wear my gold - en shoes all o - ver God's heav - en, —

cresc. 54 *f*

mp

heav - en. — I'm a gon - na fly, so give me wings!

mp

heav - en. — I'm a gon - na fly, so give me wings!

mp

heav - en. — I'm a gon - na fly, so give me wings!

mp

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