DON'T YOU WORRY 'BOUT A THING

Words and Music by Stevie Wonder
Arranged by Roger Emerson

Available for SAB, SSA, and 2-Part
PERFORMANCE NOTES
“Don’t You Worry ‘Bout a Thing” was written and recorded in 1973 by the legendary, Stevie Wonder. It has become a frequently performed song by vocal jazz ensembles and was most recently recorded by John Legend.

The song originally began with dialogue in which Stevie Wonder portrays a slick character trying to impress a young lady. He talks about all of the places he has been like Paris and Peru, and also says that he is fluent in Spanish. At that point, he says, “Todo ‘sta bien chevere.” Loosely translated, the phrase means, “Everything’s really cool!” We sing that phrase at the end of the song. For years, people thought Wonder was talking about a Chevrolet automobile!

CHORAL PREPARATION
There are two major challenges in this hip arrangement. First is the pronunciation of “don’t you.” It is very common for soloists and even small ensembles to sing the words as “don’t chew.” However, with a large group and in most choral settings, it is better to say or sing, “dohn tyou” for clarity.

The second challenge is the chromatic lines that start at meas. 37. Practice everyone singing a unison chromatic scale. Listen carefully to the half steps and strive for accuracy. Then stack each part, starting with Alto, then adding Soprano II, and finally Soprano I.

For added energy, add an egg shaker playing eighth notes with an accent on beats 2 and 4 throughout.

I hope you enjoy singing this arrangement as much as I did writing it!

ARRANGER
Roger Emerson is one of the leading choral composers in America today with over 500 titles in print and 15 million copies in circulation. After years of teaching music in the public schools and at the college level, Roger now devotes full time to composing, arranging and consulting. He is known for creating “songs kids love to sing.” He is the recipient of many ASCAP Standard Awards, and his works have been performed at the Kennedy Center, the White House and Carnegie Hall. In addition, Roger currently serves as the Northern California ACDA Representative and Board Member.
DON'T YOU WORRY 'BOUT A THING
For SSA* and Piano
Duration: ca. 3:00

Arranged by
ROGER EMERSON

Words and Music by
STEVIE WONDER

Moderate Latin beat (\( \dot{=} \) ca. 120)
N.C.

Piano

Soprano I

Ev-'ry-bod-y's got a thing,

Soprano II

Ev-'ry-bod-y's got a thing,

Alto

but

Em  B(\#5)  Em7  A9

*Available separately:
SAB (00155584), SSA (00284351), 2-Part (00155585)
hal Leonard.com/choral
Visit choralmusicdirect.com to purchase and download digital scores and audio mp3s (full performance, instrumental only, and individual part predominant tracks).
some don't know how to handle it.

Always reachin' out

Always reachin' out

some don't know how to handle it.

Dm7 G9 Cmaj7 F9 Em B(#5) Em7

in vain, in vain,

accepting the things not worth having

A9 Dm7 G9 Cmaj7 F9

DON'T YOU WORRY 'BOUT A THING – SSA
But don't you worry 'bout a thing.

thing, ma-ma, 'cause I'll be stand-in' on the side

thing, ma-ma, 'cause I'll be stand-in' on the side

thing, ma-ma, 'cause I'll be stand-in' on the side

DON'T YOU WORRY 'BOUT A THING – SSA
es. But just don’t you feel too bad when

Oo.

\text{\textit{F9 Em B}^{(5)} Em^7 A^9}}

you get fooled by smiling faces. But don’t you worry ’bout a

\text{\textit{Dm7 G^9 Cmaj7 F^9 N.C.}}

But don’t you worry ’bout a

\text{DON’T YOU WORRY ’BOUT A THING – SSA}
DON'T YOU WORRY 'BOUT A THING – SSA
When you get off
Off,
Off,

DON'T YOU WORRY 'BOUT A THING – SSA
Your trip,

Don't you worry 'bout a

thing.
DON'T YOU WORRY ’BOUT A THING – SSA
DON'T YOU WORRY 'BOUT A THING – SSA
DON'T YOU WORRY 'BOUT A THING – SSA

Don't you worry 'bout a thing, ma-ma,
Don't you worry 'bout a thing, ma-ma,

'cause I'll be stand-in' on the side when you check it out.
'cause I'll be stand-in' on the side when you check it out.

'cause I'll be stand-in' on the side when you check it out.
'cause I'll be stand-in' on the side when you check it out.

Don't you worry 'bout a thing, ma-ma,
Don't you worry 'bout a thing, ma-ma,
DON'T YOU WORRY 'BOUT A THING – SSA
Don't you worry 'bout a thing.
DON'T YOU WORRY 'BOUT A THING – SSA