

How Can I Keep from Singing?

Trad, arr Dennis Báthory-Kitsz

♩=60

Soprano

My life goes on in end-less song A - bove earth's la - men -
What tho' the tem - pest loud - ly roars I hear the truth, it
When ty - rants trem - ble sick with fear And hear their death knell

Alto

My life goes on in end-less song A - bove earth's la - men -
What tho' the tem - pest loud - ly roars I hear the truth, it
When ty - rants trem - ble sick with fear And hear their death knell

Counter-Tenor

My life goes on in end-less song A - bove earth's la - men -
What tho' the tem - pest loud - ly roars I hear the truth, it
When ty - rants trem - ble sick with fear And hear their death knell

S

ta - tion. I hear the real tho' far - off hymn That hails a new cre - a - tion. A -
liv - eth. What tho' the dark-ness round me close Songs in the night it giv - eth. No
ring-ing When friends re-joice both far and near, How can I keep from sing-ing? In

A

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ring-ing When friends re-joice both far and near, How can I keep from sing-ing? In

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bove the tu - mult and the strife I hear its mu - sic ring - ing. It
storm can shake my in - most calm While to that rock I'm cling - ing. Since
pris - on cell and dun - geon vile Our thoughts to them are wing - ing. When

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sounds an e - cho in my soul. How can I keep from sing - ing?
love is lord of - heav'n and earth... How can I keep from sing - ing?
friends by shame are un - de - filed... How can I keep from sing - ing?

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The melody is in the middle line.

Each verse is sung with that successive voices louder. The first verse is repeated with all voices equal in volume.

Three male voices may sing this an octave lower.

The word "soul" is sometimes sung "life" to keep the rhyme with "strife".

The counter-tenor part can be sung by a ringing alto.

This should be sung without vibrato, with perfect (not tempered) intonation needed in open fifths and major chords.

First performed by the Roxbury (Vermont) Union Congregational Church Choir.