

# SWEET CAROLINE

as sung by A Mighty Wind  
for female voices

Words and Music by NEIL DIAMOND

Arrangement by DYLAN OXFORD  
and A MIGHTY WIND  
*Adapted by Patrick McAlexander*

## Intro

1 2 3

Tenor Lead

da da da da da da da da da da da da

Bari Bass

bow bow bow bow

4 5 6

da da da da da da da da da da da da

bow bow bow bow bow bow bow bow

## Verse 1

7 8 9 10

dah dah dah dah nir nir nir nir buh nir nir

*a la electric guitar*

dah dah dah dah da dot Where it be - gan, \_\_\_\_\_

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Sweet Caroline

11 12 13

nir nir nir \_\_\_\_\_ nir buh nir nir nir nir nir \_\_\_\_\_

I can't be - gin \_\_\_\_\_ to know - in,' \_\_\_\_\_ but then, I know

strong, \_\_\_\_\_ so strong. \_\_\_\_\_

14 15 16

\_\_\_\_\_ nir buh nir nir nir grow - in' strong, \_\_\_\_\_ so \_\_\_\_\_ strong. buh

strong, \_\_\_\_\_ so strong. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ it's grow - in' strong. \_\_\_\_\_

17 18 19

nir nir nir \_\_\_\_\_ nir buh nir nir nir nir nir \_\_\_\_\_

Was in the spring, \_\_\_\_\_ and spring be - came \_\_\_\_\_

20 21 22

\_\_\_\_\_ nir buh nir nir nir nir nir \_\_\_\_\_ nir \_\_\_\_\_ nir buh nir nir

\_\_\_\_\_ the sum - mer. Who'd-'ve be - lieved \_\_\_\_\_ you'd come \_\_\_\_\_ a - long?

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23 nir come a - long, 24 oh, yeah? 25 dah Hands dah

dm dm dm dm ba

This system contains measures 23, 24, and 25. The vocal line starts with 'nir come a - long, oh, yeah?' and ends with 'dah'. The guitar line provides accompaniment. A dashed line connects the 'dah' in the vocal line to the 'dah' in the guitar line. Chords are indicated as 'dm dm dm dm ba'.

26 da da da dot da 27 touch - in' hands, 28 da da da dot dah

dm dm dm dm dm dm dm dm ba dm dm dm dm ba

This system contains measures 26, 27, and 28. The vocal line includes 'da da da dot da touch - in' hands, da da da dot dah'. The guitar line continues the accompaniment. Chords are indicated as 'dm dm dm dm dm dm dm dm ba dm dm dm dm ba'.

29 reach - in' out, 30 da da da dot da 31 touch - in' me,

dm dm dm dm ba dm dm dm dm dm dm dm dm

This system contains measures 29, 30, and 31. The vocal line includes 'reach - in' out, da da da dot da touch - in' me,'. The guitar line continues the accompaniment. Chords are indicated as 'dm dm dm dm ba dm dm dm dm dm dm dm dm'.

32 da touch - in' you, 33 yeah 34 touch - in' you, oh, yeah.

dm dm dm ba dm dm ba dm ba dm dm My

This system contains measures 32, 33, and 34. The vocal line includes 'da touch - in' you, yeah touch - in' you, oh, yeah.'. The guitar line continues the accompaniment. Chords are indicated as 'dm dm dm ba dm dm ba dm ba dm dm My'.

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Chorus 1

Car - o - line, \_\_\_\_\_ bop bop bah

Sweet Car - o - line, \_\_\_\_\_ good times

Car - o - line, \_\_\_\_\_ bop bop bah

sweet

good, yeah. \_\_\_\_\_

nev - er seemed so good, \_\_\_\_\_ so good, \_\_\_\_\_ oh, yeah. \_\_\_\_\_

good, so good, \_\_\_\_\_ yeah. \_\_\_\_\_ Well,

in - clined \_\_\_\_\_ bop bop bah

I'd been in - clined \_\_\_\_\_ to be - lieve \_\_\_\_\_

in - clined \_\_\_\_\_ bop bop bah

I'd

Verse 2

\_\_\_\_\_ they nev - er would. But now I nir nir nir \_\_\_\_\_

dot look at the night,

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48 49 50

— nir buh nir nir nir nir nir — nir nir buh nir nir

— and it don't seem — so lone - ly.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 48, 49, and 50. The treble clef staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. Measure 48 starts with a whole note chord of F#4 and C5. Measures 49 and 50 feature a melodic line in the treble clef with lyrics 'nir', 'buh', 'nir', 'nir', 'nir', 'nir', 'nir', 'nir', 'nir', 'nir', 'buh', 'nir', 'nir'. The bass clef staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with a steady eighth-note bass line.

51 52 53

nir nir nir — nir buh nir nir nir on - ly me —  
me —

We fill it up — with on - ly two. —

Detailed description: This system contains measures 51, 52, and 53. The treble clef staff continues the melody with lyrics 'nir', 'nir', 'nir', 'nir', 'buh', 'nir', 'nir', 'nir', 'on - ly', 'me', 'me'. The bass clef staff continues the accompaniment. Measure 53 ends with a whole note chord of F#4 and C5.

54 55 56

— an' you. —  
— an' you. —

— an' — you. buh nir nir nir — nir nir buh nir nir

— And when I — hurt, —

Detailed description: This system contains measures 54, 55, and 56. The treble clef staff has lyrics '— an' you. —', '— an' you. —', '— an' — you. buh nir nir nir', and 'nir — nir buh nir nir'. The bass clef staff continues the accompaniment. Measure 56 ends with a whole note chord of F#4 and C5.

57 58 59

nir nir nir — nir buh nir nir nir nir nir —

hurt - in' runs off — my should - ers. How can I hurt —

Detailed description: This system contains measures 57, 58, and 59. The treble clef staff has lyrics 'nir nir nir — nir buh nir nir nir nir nir —'. The bass clef staff continues the accompaniment. Measure 59 ends with a whole note chord of F#4 and C5.

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60 nir buh nir nir nir nir with on - ly you? -  
 when I'm with you? -

63 dah da da da dot dah touch-in' one,  
 dah da da da dot dah  
 dm dm dm dm ba dm dm dm dm dm dm dm dm ba

66 da da da dot dah reach-in' out,  
 da da da dot dah da da da dot dah  
 dm dm dm dm ba dm dm dm dm ba dm dm dm dm

69 touch-in' me, touch - in' you, touch - in' you, yeah.  
 touch-in' me, touch - in' you, touch - in' you,  
 dm dm dm dm da dm dm you dm ba dm dm ba

Sweet Caroline

Chorus 2

Car - o - line, bop bop bah  
 oh, yeah. Sweet Car - o - line, good times  
 Car - o - line, bop bop bah

dm ba dm dm My sweet  
 good, yeah.  
 nev - er seemed so good, so good, oh, yeah.

good, so good, yeah. Well,  
 in-clined bop bop bah  
 I'd been in-clined to be - lieve they nev - er  
 in-clined bop bop bah

Interlude

would. ah da da da da da da da da da

Sweet Caroline

87 88 89

da da da da da da da da da da da da

90 91 92

da da da da da da dah da  
 dat dah dah My

Chorus 3

93 94 95

Car - o - line, bop bop bah  
 Sweet Car - o - line, good times  
 Car - o - line, bop bop bah

sweet

96 97 98

nev - er seemed so good, so good, oh, yeah.  
 good, so good, yeah. Well,



Sweet Caroline

in-clined \_\_\_\_\_ bop bop bah

99 100 101 102

I'd been in-clined \_\_\_\_\_ to be-lieve \_\_\_\_\_ they nev-er

in-clined \_\_\_\_\_ bop bop bah

I'd

1. 103 104 2. 105 106 107

would. ah \_\_\_\_\_ would. Sweet Car - o -, sweet Car - o-line, -

Car - o - line,

108 109 110 111 112

\_\_\_\_\_ sweet Car - o-line! \_\_\_\_\_

sweet Car - o-line, \_\_\_\_\_ sweet Car-o - line! \_\_\_\_\_

*rit.*

### Performance Notes

Neil Diamond is one of the best-selling artists in America, with a career spanning five decades. His first success came as a songwriter, with hits such as *I'm a Believer*, written for the **Monkees**. As he gained fame as a writer, Diamond also recorded and performed, eventually landing a hit with *Solitary Man*. He has had 10 No. 1 hits, including *Song Sung Blue*, *You Don't Bring Me Flowers* and *America*. Diamond is said to have written *Sweet Caroline* in one hour, his inspiration having come from a picture of Caroline Kennedy on a magazine cover.

**A Mighty Wind** is an international-medalist quartet based in Atlanta, Ga., a group known for its widely varied repertoire. The foursome performs regularly on barbershop shows around the country and has competed many times internationally, placing as high as third. Dylan Oxford sang with the lead and bass of A Mighty Wind in an earlier quartet called **Stateline Grocery**. This medalist group sang for a number of years and recorded two albums.

Sing this song joyfully, paying careful attention to balance when the melody switches from lead to bass. If you wish, take an idea from baseball parks and invite your audience to sing along with you on the *bop bop bah* and *so good* lyrics.

As a final note: Questions about the contest 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.