

LEAN ON ME

For Young Women In Harmony (SSAA)

Words and Music by BILL WITHERS

Arranged by JOEY MINSHALL

Moderate tempo (♩=80-84)

Soprano I
Soprano II

Some-times in our lives _____ we all have pain. _____ We all have sor -

row. _____ But if we are wise _____ we know that there's _____ al - ways to - mor -

row. Lean on me _____ when you're not strong, _____ and I'll be your friend. _____

on me

The voice parts in barbershop harmony for women have different names and functions than they do in other SSAA vocal styles. The tenor part is equivalent to Soprano I but functions as a harmony part above the melody. The lead part (Soprano II) has the melody line. The baritone part (Alto I) fills in above and below the melody, and the bass part (Alto II) supplies the harmonic foundation (root or fifth) of the chord. The tenor sings the highest note in a chord, the bass the lowest, the lead the melody, and the baritone sings the all important missing note. Because one of the primary characteristics of barbershop music is its cone-shaped sound, the bass must sing with a heavier tone quality than that used by the upper voices. She will usually sing with more volume than the other three parts. Feel free to adjust the key of this arrangement to suit the vocal strengths of your ensemble.

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Lean On Me - YWIH (SSAA)

I'll help you car - ry on, — for it won't be long —

— 'til I'm gon - na need — some - bod - y to lean — on.

If there is a load — you have to bear — that you can't car -

a load to bear

ry, — I'm right up the road. — I'll share your load —

the road.

Lean On Me - YWIH (SSAA)

your load

23 24 25

on me

if you just call me. Lean on me when you're not strong-

your load

on me

Detailed description: This system contains the first two staves of music for measures 23-25. The top staff is the vocal line, and the bottom staff is the piano accompaniment. The key signature has three sharps (F#, C#, G#). Measure 23 has a vocal line with a slur over two notes and a piano accompaniment of chords. Measure 24 has a vocal line with a slur over two notes and a piano accompaniment of chords. Measure 25 has a vocal line with a slur over two notes and a piano accompaniment of chords. The lyrics are: "your load" above measure 23, "on me" above measure 25, and "if you just call me. Lean on me when you're not strong-" below the vocal line.

26 27 28

and I'll be your friend. I'll help you car - ry on,

Detailed description: This system contains the second two staves of music for measures 26-28. The top staff is the vocal line, and the bottom staff is the piano accompaniment. Measure 26 has a vocal line with a slur over two notes and a piano accompaniment of chords. Measure 27 has a vocal line with a slur over two notes and a piano accompaniment of chords. Measure 28 has a vocal line with a slur over two notes and a piano accompaniment of chords. The lyrics are: "and I'll be your friend. I'll help you car - ry on," below the vocal line.

29 30 31

for it won't be long 'til I'm gon - na need some - bod - y to lean-

Detailed description: This system contains the third two staves of music for measures 29-31. The top staff is the vocal line, and the bottom staff is the piano accompaniment. Measure 29 has a vocal line with a slur over two notes and a piano accompaniment of chords. Measure 30 has a vocal line with a slur over two notes and a piano accompaniment of chords. Measure 31 has a vocal line with a slur over two notes and a piano accompaniment of chords. The lyrics are: "for it won't be long 'til I'm gon - na need some - bod - y to lean-" below the vocal line.

Hand claps (see bottom of page 5.)

32 33 34

on. You just call on me sis - ter, when you need a hand. We all-

Detailed description: This system contains the final two staves of music for measures 32-34. The top staff is the vocal line, and the bottom staff is the piano accompaniment. Measure 32 has a vocal line with a slur over two notes and a piano accompaniment of chords. Measure 33 has a vocal line with a slur over two notes and a piano accompaniment of chords. Measure 34 has a vocal line with a slur over two notes and a piano accompaniment of chords. The lyrics are: "on. You just call on me sis - ter, when you need a hand. We all-" below the vocal line.

Lean On Me - YWIH (SSAA)

35 36 37 *Hand claps*

need some-bod - y to lean_____ on. I just might have a prob-lem that

38 39 40

you'd un-der-stand. We all need some-bod - y to lean_____ on. Lean on me_

41 42 43 44

on me

_____ when you're not strong_____ and I'll be your friend._____ I'll help you car - ry on,_____

on me

45 46 47 48

for it won't be long_____ 'til I'm gon-na need_____ some-bod - y to lean_____ on._____

Lean On Me - YWIH (SSAA)

Hand claps here to end.

49 50

Call me when you need a friend. Call me.

(Split lead section or lead solo.)

Oh, ba - by just

(Split bass section or bass solo.)

51 52

Call me when you need a friend. Call me.

(Split lead section or lead solo.)

I'm tel - lin' you

(Split bass section or bass solo.)

53 54 55 56

Call me. Call me. Call me!

Hand claps

Hand claps