

# Traditional & Folk Songs with lyrics & midi music

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## You Can't Keep Me From Singing

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(Gordon MacDonald, Jr./tune: How Can I Keep From Singing?)

My life flows on, but something's wrong--I'm caught in consternation;  
Whenever I begin to sing there's rising agitation.

My singing voice was not my choice, Fate brought it sweetly winging,  
Since Fate's to blame, I now proclaim: you can't keep me from singing!

My voice is hoarse, but then, of course, a sweet smooth voice is boring.  
And if a song be sad or long, I pep it up by roaring!  
To sing on pitch is something which was not in my upbringing;  
To sing off-key sounds fine to me, you can't keep me from singing!

If I sing just right I can incite a peaceful group to riot  
Or offer me a handsome fee if only I'll be quiet!  
But I don't bargain with a mob, though tar and feathers they're bringing,  
Put down that noose and turn me loose you can't keep me from singing!

The birds have fled my neighborhood, their tiny eardrums shattered;  
My neighbours, too, have said, "Adieu!", but it hasn't really mattered.  
My daily mail brings threats of death and curses coarse and stinging,  
I heed them not they're a tin-eared lot  
and they can't keep me from singing!

Each living thing its song must sing, life sings to life in chorus;  
Our song brings courage when we do not know what lies before us.  
Our songs of freedom, love and hope down through the ages ringing--  
Cold Death defy and that is why you can't keep me from singing!

(Dedicated to those of us who cannot sing but do anyway.)

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toilet paper or on any reasonably flat surface in between without compensation  
to the author;  
just sing the bloody song and get on with it.

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