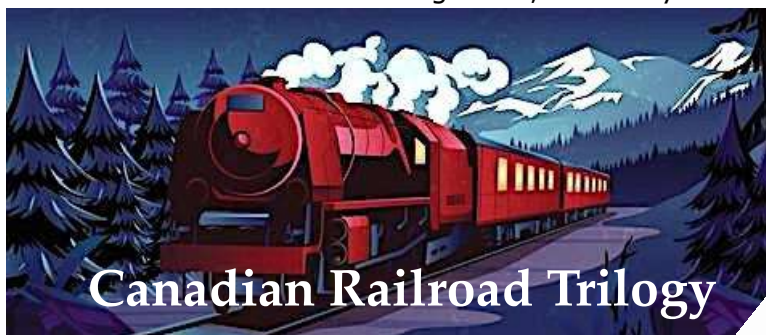




Gordon Lightfoot
arranged by Larry Nickel

Pno. $\text{♩} = 52$ Rubato *mp* soft and warm intro
pedal intuitively

S *poco rit.* *mf* **A**
There was a time in this fair land' a-road did not run; when the

A *mf*
There was a time in ' en the rail-road did not run; when the

Pno. *poco rit.*

S 14
wild moun-tains stood a - lone a-against the sun. Long be-fore the

A
jes - tic moun-tains stood a - lone a-against the sun. Long be-fore the

Pno.

Instr. parts available
upon request: gratis
(guitar, bass, full size piano part)

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20

S white man and long be-fore the wheel. When the green dark for-est si - lent,

A white man and long be-fore the wheel. When the green dark as too si - lent,

Pno.

27 *poco rit.* *p* *accel.* *mf*

S too si - lent tr But

A too si - lent be real. *mf*

Pno. *poco rit.* *p* *accel.* *p*

33 **B** $\text{♩} = 60$ (f) *mp* *lightly*

S e- gin - ning and his-t'ry has no bound, As to this ver-dant coun - try they

A time has no be- gin - ning and his-t'ry has no bound, As to this ver-dant coun - try they

Pno. $\text{♩} = 60$ (faster) *mp* *lightly*

39

S came from all a - round. They sailed up-on her wa-ter - ways and walked the for - Built the

A came from all a - round. They sailed up-on her wa-ter - ways and walked tall; Built the

Pno. *r.h.* *l.h.*

45

S mines, mills and fac - tor-ies for the of us all.

A mines, mills and fac - tor-ies of us all.

Pno. *rit.* $\text{C} = 82$ (subito faster)

51

S And when the young man's fan - cy was turned in to the Spring,

A Oo turned in to the Spring,

Pno. *f* *mf*

57

S — The rail-way men grew rest-less for to hear the ham-mers ring —

A —

Pno.

63

S minds were o-ver-flow-ing with the vi-sions With ma-ny a for-tune

A minds were o-ver-flow-ing with th their day, With ma-ny a for-tune

Pno.

69

S w- and ma-ny a debt to pay. For they

A won and lost and ma-ny a debt to pay. For they

Pno.

$\text{♩} = 110$
f

75 **D**

S
looked in the fu - ture and what did they see? They saw an i - ron road run - nin' from the se - a sea...

A
looked in the fu - ture and what did they see? They saw an i - ron road run - nin' fr the sea...

Pno. *mf*

79

S
Bring - in' the goods to a young grow - in' land the sea - boards and in - to their hands... Look a - way!

A
Bring - in' the goods to a young grow - in' all up from the sea - boards and in - to their hands... Look a - way!

Pno.

83

S
— they, a - cross this might - y land. From the east - - - ern

A
— said they, a - cross this might - y land. From the east - - - ern

Pno. *f* *l.h.*

88 E

S shore___ to the west - - ern strand. Bring in the work-ers and brin 'he rails, we got-ta

A shore___ to the west - - ern strand. Bring in the work-er p the rails, we got-ta

Pno. *l.h.* *mf*

93

S lay down the tracks and tears up the trails O-pen you heart, let the life blood flow. Got-ta

A lay down the tracks and tears u O-pen you heart, let the life blood flow. Got-ta

Pno.

97 *molto rit.*

S ay_'cause we're mov-in' too slow. Get on our way_ 'cause we're mov - in' too slow...

A get on our way_'cause we're mov-in' too slow. Get on our way_ 'cause we're mov - in' too slow...

Pno. *molto rit.*

101 $\text{♩} = 96$ *mp* **F**

S Be - hind the blue Rock-ies_ the sun is de - clin - ing. stars, they come

A *mp* Be - hind the blue Rock-ies_ the sun is de - clin - ing Oo

Pno. *p*

109

S steal-in' at the close of the day. ss the wide prai-rie_ our loved ones are

A e of the day. the wide prai-rie our loved ones are

Pno.

116 *rit.*

S Be - yond the dark o - ceans in a land far a - way.

A sleep - ing. Be - yond the dark o - ceans in a land far a - way.

Pno. *rit.*

G a tempo

123 *mf*

S We are the nav-vies who work u-pon the rail- way. O

A *mf* Oo your ham-mers in the

Pno. a tempo *mp*



130 ah

S Lay-ir' and build - in' the bridg-es

A bright blaz-in' sun. down track and build - in' the bridg-es

Pno.

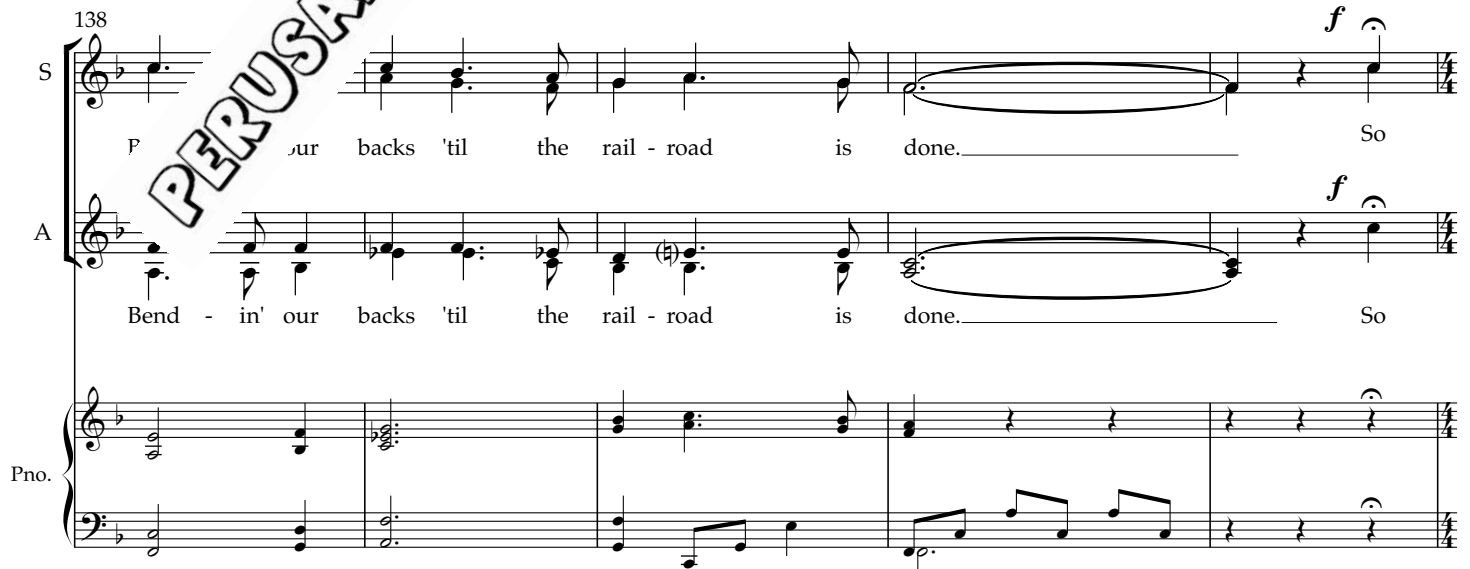


138 *f*

S P our backs 'til the rail - road is done. So

A Bend - in' our backs 'til the rail - road is done. So

Pno.



143 **[H]** ♩ = 82 (slowly and gradually accel. to m. 159)

S
o-ver the moun-tains and o-ver the plains, o-ver the mus-keg and i...

A
o-ver the moun-tains and o-ver the plains, o-ver the mus-keg the rain...

Pno. *mf* plodding at first

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147

S
Up the St. Law-rence, all the way to Gas-pé swing-in' our ham-mers and draw-in' our pay...

A
Up the St. Law-rence, all the way † swing-in' our ham-mers and draw-in' our pay...

Pno.

151 **[Solo One]** ♩ = 110

S
and ty-in' 'em down, a-way to the bunk-house and in-to the town. A

A
Solo Two

Pno. ♩ = 110 adjust volume for the soloists

155 ♩ = 114

S *f* Oh, the

A *f* Oh, the

dol-lar a day_ and a place for my head, a drink to the liv - in' a head!_

Pno. ♩ = 114 accel.

159 I ♩ = 116

S song of the fu - ture has been sung, the bat - tles have been won. On the

A song of the fu - ture has been All the bat - tles have been won. On the

Pno. I ♩ = 116 *f*

164

S mo' ps we stand. All the world at our com - mand. We have

A mou. tain tops we stand. All the world at our com - mand. We have

Pno. *l.h.*

168 *molto rit.* *mf*

S o - pened up the soil, with our tear-drops and our toil There

A o - pened up the soil, with our tear-drops and our There

Pno. *l.h.* *molto rit.*

173 *J* $\text{♩} = 52$ *Rubato*

S was a time in this fair land when the rail-road did not run; when the

A was a time in this fair land rail-road did not run; when the

Pno. $\text{♩} = 52$ *Rubato*

178

S jes - tic moun-tains stood a - lone a-against the sun.

A wild ma - jes - tic moun-tains stood a - lone a-against the sun.

Pno.

183

S *mp*

Long be-fore the white man and long be-fore the wheel. _____ Whe reen dark

A

Long be-fore the white man and long be-fore the wheel. _____ ne green dark

Pno. *p*

189

S

for - est was too si - lent to be real. _____ And man - y were the dead men, too

A

for - est was too si - lent to be _____ And man - y were the dead men, too

194

S *p* *rit.*

si - lent, _____ too si - lent to be real. _____

A

si - ler' _____ too too si - lent to be real. _____



the last spike - November 7, 1885 (the last of 30 million spikes)

This iconic song was commissioned by the CBC (Canadian Broadcasting Corp.) to celebrate the Canadian Centennial in 1967. While Lightfoot's song echoes the optimism of the railroad age, it also chronicles the cost in sweat and blood of building "an iron road runnin' from the sea to the sea."

The slow middle section of the song is especially poignant, vividly describing the efforts and sorrows of the nameless and forgotten "navvies," whose manual labour actually built the railway. The railroad may have physically connected the country, but it came at the expense of Indigenous lives and on the backs of the people who built it.