

# How I Found Sam



Commissioned for Colla Voce  
Steve Ng, Director

music by Brian Wilbur Grundstrom  
lyrics by James Skofield

approx. 7 min.

1  $\downarrow$  120

*mp*

Tenor I  
Tenor II  
Baritone  
Bass

When I was just a lit-tle boy and

Piano

*mp*

5

T1  
T2  
Br  
Bs

ma-king too much noise, my Ma-ma said, "Now, run a-long, and

piano

7/18/2006

9

T1  
play out - side\_\_\_ with the boys."

T2  
play out - side\_\_\_ with the boys."

Br  
And so I went,\_\_\_ and threw the ball and

Bs  
And so I went,\_\_\_ and threw the ball and

piano

13

T1

T2

Br  
wre- stled and had fun.\_\_\_\_ We knew our - selves for what we were: just boys; and

Bs  
wre- stled and had fun.\_\_\_\_ We knew our - selves for what we were: just boys; and

piano

17

*mf*

T1

T2

Br

Bs

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

I was one. When I was a big-ger boy, my Dad-dy said to

piano

17

*mf*

21

T1

T2

Br

Bs

me, "It's time for you to leave off play-ing dolls and hav-ing

me, "It's time for you to leave off play-ing dolls and hav-ing

me, "It's time for you to leave off play-ing dolls and hav-ing

me, "It's time for you to leave off play-ing dolls and hav-ing

piano

21

25

T1  
tea!" And so I left off ma - king clothes for lit - tle sis - ter's doll. —

T2  
tea!" And so I left off ma - king clothes for lit - tle sis - ter's doll. —

Br  
tea!" And so I left off ma - king clothes for lit - tle sis - ter's doll. —

Bs  
tea!" And so I left off ma - king clothes for lit - tle sis - ter's doll. —

piano

29

T1  
— My Dad - dy said — dolls weren't for boys; and that — was all.

T2  
— My Dad - dy said — dolls weren't for boys; and that — was all.

Br  
— My Dad - dy said — dolls weren't for boys; and that — was all.

Bs  
— My Dad - dy said — dolls weren't for boys; and that — was all.

piano

33 *mp*

T1  
When I be-came a teen-a-ger, my best friend said to me,

T2  
When I be-came a teen-a-ger, my best friend said to me,

Br

Bs

"Why

"Why—

33 *mp*

piano

37

T1

T2

Br

Bs

And

And

don't you date a cheer-lead - er and have some fun, like me?"

don't you date a cheer-lead - er and have some fun, like me?"

37

piano

41

T1  
so I da - ted Su - sie... but I did not know why it

T2  
so I da - ted Su - sie... *port.* but I did not know why it

Br  
Su - sie... know why it

Bs  
*port.* Su - sie... know why it

piano

45

T1  
was it was it was her hun - ky bro - ther, her hun - ky

T2  
was it was it was her hun - ky bro - ther, her hun - ky

Br  
was it was it was her hun - ky bro - ther, her hun - ky

Bs  
was it was it was her hun - ky bro - ther, her hun - ky

piano

51

*mf* *f* *ff.*

*mf* *f* *ff.*

*mf* *f* *ff.*

bro - ther, Sam, Sam, Sam, who made me

bro - ther, Sam, Sam, Sam, who made me

bro - ther, Sam, Sam, Sam, who made me

bro - ther, Sam, Sam, Sam, who made me

piano

57

*mf*

*mf* *mf* *mf*

want to die! Oh, Sue was sweet and

want to die! Su - sie... Su - sie...

want to die! Sue was

want to die! Oh, Sue was sweet

piano

63

*T1* Sue \_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_ fine, Oh, Sue was sweet and fine, \_\_\_\_\_

*T2* Su - - - - - sie... Sue \_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_ sweet Sue was

*Br* sweet and Sue \_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_ fine, Sue \_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_ fine,

*Bs* and Sue \_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_ fine, sweet fine,

*piano*

68

*T1* \_\_\_\_\_ nice \_\_\_\_\_ as nice \_\_\_\_\_ as nice could be;

*T2* sweet and fine, nice as nice as nice \_\_\_\_\_ could be;

*Br* as nice \_\_\_\_\_ as nice \_\_\_\_\_ as nice could be; *mp* But Sam had

*Bs* sweet fine, as nice as nice could be; *mp* But Sam had

*piano*



74

*mp*

T1 and eyes that called to me.

T2 and eyes that called to me.

Br

Bs shoul - ders like an ox

shoul - ders like an ox

piano

80

T1 My Ma - ma said, "it's just a phase!"

T2 My Ma - ma said, "it's just a phase!"

Br

Bs My Dad - dy's

My Dad - dy's

piano

86

*pp*

TI but Sam was all I dreamed a -

T2 but Sam was all I dreamed a -

Br face grew red; but Sam was all I dreamed a -

Bs face grew red; but Sam was all I dreamed a -

piano

91

*mf*

TI bout, a - lone, — at night, in bed. Oh, Sue was sweet and

T2 bout, a - lone, — at night, in bed. Su - sie... Su - sie...

Br bout, a - lone, — at night, in bed. Sue was

Bs bout, a - lone, — at night, in bed. Oh, Sue was sweet

piano

97

T1  
Sue \_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_ fine, Oh, Sue was sweet and fine, \_\_\_\_\_

T2  
Su - - - - - sie... Sue \_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_ sweet Sue was

Br  
sweet and Sue \_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_ fine, Sue \_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_ fine,

Bs  
and Sue \_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_ fine, sweet fine,

piano

102

T1  
\_\_\_\_\_ nice \_\_\_\_\_ as nice \_\_\_\_\_ as nice could be; You see, \_\_\_\_\_

T2  
sweet and fine, nice as nice as nice \_\_\_\_\_ could be; You see, \_\_\_\_\_

Br  
as nice \_\_\_\_\_ as nice \_\_\_\_\_ as nice could be; You see, \_\_\_\_\_

Bs  
sweet fine, as nice as nice could be; You see, \_\_\_\_\_

piano

108

T1

T2

Br

Bs

*mp*

*mp*

I knew I wan-ted love... but not with Kate or Ma - ry. I

I knew I wan-ted love... but not with Kate or Ma - ry. I

piano

108

*mp*

113

T1

T2

Br

Bs

*mf*

*mf*

I knew I wan-ted

I knew I wan-ted

di - dn't want that... soft - ness... but some - thing big and hai - ry.

di - dn't want that... soft - ness... but some - thing big and hai - ry.

piano

113

118

*T1*  
love... but not with Kate or Ma - ry. I di - dn't want that.. soft - ness... but

*T2*  
love... but not with Kate or Ma - ry. I di - dn't want that.. soft - ness... but

*Br*  
*mf*  
hai - ry. not Ma - ry. I want

*Bs*  
*mf*  
hai - ry. not Ma - ry. I want

*piano*  
118

123

*T1*  
some - thing big and hai - ry. Oh, Sue was sweet and Sue \_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_

*T2*  
some - thing big and hai - ry. Su - sie was sweet oh Su - sie was

*Br*  
big \_\_\_\_\_ and hai - ry. I knew I wan - ted love... but not with Kate or

*Bs*  
big \_\_\_\_\_ and hai - ry. I want Har - ry not \_\_\_\_\_

*piano*  
123

128

T1  
fine, as nice as nice could be;

T2  
fine Sue was sweet and fine.

Br  
Ma - ry. I di - dn't want that... soft - ness... but some - thing big and hai - ry.

Bs  
Ma - ry I want big and big and hai - ry.

piano

133

♩ 150

T1  
Oh! I tried to change, I swear it!

T2  
Oh! I tried to

Br  
Oh! I tried to

Bs  
Oh! I tried to change, I swear it!

piano

137

*T1* I went out for the team; I went out for the

*T2* change, I swear it! I went out for the

*Br* change, I swear it! I went out for the

*Bs* I went out for the team; I went out for the

*piano*

144

*T1* team; but in the loc - ker - room, one night, I show-ered in the

*T2* team; but in the loc - ker - room, one night, I show-ered in the

*Br* team; but in the loc - ker - room, one night, I show-ered in the

*Bs* team; but in the loc - ker - room, one night, I show-ered in the

*piano*

*p*  $\downarrow$  80

148

*mp* *f*

TI steam... And there, a - cross from me, was Sam All big and drip - ping

T2 steam... And there, a - cross from me, was Sam All big and drip - ping

Br steam... And there, a - cross from me, was Sam All big and drip - ping

Bs steam... And there, a - cross from me, was Sam All big and drip - ping

piano *mp* *f*

153 *♩* 88 slightly faster

TI wet... He stared at me;

T2 wet... He stared at me;

Br wet... He stared at me;

Bs wet... He stared at me;

piano



157

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

*ff*

TI I stared... right back... and then, and then,

T2 I stared... right back... and then, and then,

Br I stared... right back... and then, and then,

Bs I stared... right back... and then, and then,

piano

162

*mp* faster

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

TI our two lips met... My best friend called me, My

T2 our two lips met... best friend called me,

Br our two lips met... best friend called me,

Bs our two lips met... My best friend called me, My

piano

♩=120

166

*T1* best friend called me, "Fag - got!" "Fag - got!" "Fag - got!" My

*T2* "Fag - got!" "Fag - got!" My

*Br* "Fag - got!" "Fag - got!" My

*Bs* best friend called me, "Fag - got!" "Fag - got!" "Fag - got!"

*piano*

169

*T1* best friend called me, "Fag - got!" My coach, he\_\_\_ called me, My coach, he\_\_\_ called me,

*T2* best friend called me, "Fag - got!" My coach, he\_\_\_ called me, My coach, he\_\_\_ called me,

*Br* best friend called me, "Fag - got!" My coach, he\_\_\_ called me, My coach, he\_\_\_ called me,

*Bs* best friend called me, "Fag - got!" My coach, he\_\_\_ called me, My coach, he\_\_\_ called me,

*piano*

172

T1  
"Queer!" I knew they did-n't un - der - stand; un - der - stand; I \_\_\_ tried hard\_\_

T2  
"Queer!" I knew they did-n't un - der - stand; un - der - stand; I \_\_\_ tried hard\_\_

Br  
"Queer!" I knew they did-n't un - der - stand; un - der - stand; I \_\_\_ tried hard\_\_

Bs  
"Queer!" I knew they did-n't un - der - stand; un - der - stand; I \_\_\_ tried hard\_\_

piano

177

T1  
not to care. My best friend called me, "Fag - got!" My

T2  
not to care. not to care.

Br  
not to care. "Fag - got!" "Fag - got!"

Bs  
not to care. not to care.

piano

180

*T1* coach, he called me, "Queer!" I knew they did - n't un - der - stand; un - der - stand; I

*T2* not to care. knew they did - n't un - der - stand; un - der - stand; I

*Br* "Fag - got!" "Fag - got!" "Fag - got!" "Fag - got!" "Fag - got!" "Queer!" I

*Bs* not to care. "Fag - got!" "Fag - got!" "Queer!" I

*piano*

183

*T1* tried hard not to care. *mp* My best friend, he stopped *mf* spea - king. *mf* My

*T2* tried hard not to care. *mp* My best friend, he stopped *mf* spea - king. *mf* My

*Br* tried hard not to care. *mp* My best friend, he stopped *mf* spea - king. *mf* My

*Bs* tried hard not to care. *mp* My best friend, he stopped *mf* spea - king. *mf* My

*piano*

187

*f*

*f* And

*f* And

*f* And

*f* And

*f* And

coach ran off to sea. Su - sie's hun - ky bro - ther...? And

coach ran off to sea. Su - sie's hun - ky bro - ther...? And

coach ran off to sea. Su - sie's bro - - - ther...?

coach ran off to sea. And Su - sie's bro - - - ther...?

187

piano

190

*f* And

*f* And

*f* And

*f* And

*f* And

Su - sie's hun - ky bro - ther...? hun - ky bro - ther...? And Su - sie's hun - ky bro - ther...? He

Su - sie's hun - ky bro - ther...? bro - ther...? Su - sie's hun - ky bro - ther...? He

Su - sie's hun - ky bro - ther...? bro - ther...? Su - sie's hun - ky bro - ther...? He

Su - sie's hun - ky bro - ther...? bro - ther...? Su - sie's hun - ky bro - ther...? He

190

piano

193

*T1*  
up and mar - - - ried... mel.

*T2*  
up and mar - - - ried... mel.

*Br*  
up and mar - - - ried... mel.

*Bs*  
up and mar - - - ried... mel.

*piano*

197

*T1*  
*mp* And now that I'm a grown man, I still like ma - king

*T2*  
*mp* And now that I'm a grown man, I still like ma - king

*Br*  
*mp* And now that I'm a grown man, I still like ma - king

*Bs*  
*mp* And now that I'm a grown man, I still like ma - king

*piano*

201

*mf*

T1 noise; I still en - joy the out - doors, and play - ing with the

T2 noise; I still en - joy the out - doors, and play - ing with the

Br noise; I still en - joy the out - doors, and play - ing with the

Bs noise; I still en - joy the out - doors, and play - ing with the

piano

*mf*

205

T1 boys. Sam and I play rug - by; we wres - tle and have fun.

T2 boys. Sam and I play rug - by; we wres - tle and have fun.

Br boys. Sam and I play rug - by; we wres - tle and have fun.

Bs boys. Sam and I play rug - by; we wres - tle and have fun.

piano

205

209

*f*

T1 — We know our selves for what we are: just men; and we are one.

T2 — We know our selves for what we are: just men; and we are one.

Br — We know our selves for what we are: just men; and we are one.

Bs — We know our - selves for what we are: just men; and we are one.

piano

209

*f*

212

*ff* broadly

T1 We know our-selves for what we are: just men; and we are

T2 *ff* broadly We know our-selves — for what we are: just men; and we are

Br *ff* broadly We know our-selves for — what we are: just men; and we are

Bs *ff* broadly We know our-selves for what we are: just men; and we are

piano

213 broadly

*ff*



217

*ff*  $\text{♩} = 70$

*ff* *And*

one. And what be - came of Su - sie...

one. And what be - came of Su - sie...

one. And what Su - sie Su - sie Su - sie

one. And what be - - - came

piano

222

that sweet, cheer - lead - ing girl? Some - times she

that sweet, cheer - lead - ing girl? Some - times she

Su - sie Su - sie Su - sie Su - sie Some - times she

of Su - - - - - sie Some - times she

piano

228

T1  
comes to vi - sit and brings her lo - ver...

T2  
comes to vi - sit and brings her lo - ver...

Br  
comes to vi - sit and brings her lo - ver...

Bs  
comes to vi - - - sit and brings her lo - ver...

piano

233

T1  
Shirl!

T2  
Shirl!

Br  
Shirl!

Bs  
Shirl!

piano

233 poco ten.