



# **Oh, Why not Sing?**

**James J. Jelly**  
**(1847-1910)**

**James J. Jelly** [sometimes spelled Jelley] (1847-1910) was born in Hancock County, Ohio. He was Instructor in Harmony and Voice Culture at Northern Ohio University and Director of Music at Findlay College, Ohio. He was known throughout the region as a musical composer.

Oh, why not sing,  
and on the wing  
Of sweetest pleasure rise?  
Bright sunbeams play,  
like those of May,  
'Round him who music tries.

*Then sing, oh, sing,  
so cheerily, happy and free;  
Then sing, oh, sing,  
for merry, oh, merry are we.*

When I'm in song,  
no time is long,  
I love to longer still;  
And sweep the lyre,  
whose tones inspire,  
And all my being thrill.

Oh, music dear,  
be mine to cheer  
This lonely vale of time,  
And then above,  
with those I love,  
I ceaseless songs will chime.

# Oh, Why not Sing?

J. J. Jelly

S Oh, why — not sing, and on the wing Of sweet - est plea - sure

A Oh, why not sing, and on the wing Of sweet - est plea - sure

T Oh, why — not sing, and on the wing Of sweet - est plea - sure

B Oh, why not sing, and on the wing Of sweet - est plea - sure

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S rise? — Bright sun - beams play, like those of May, 'Round him who mu - sic

A rise? — Bright sun - beams play, like those of May, 'Round him who mu - sic

T rise? — Bright sun - beams play, like those of May, 'Round him who mu - sic

B rise? — Bright sun - beams play, like those of May, 'Round him who mu - sic

## Oh, Why not Sing?

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S tries. Then sing, oh, sing, so cheer - i - ly, hap - py and

A tries. Then sing, oh, sing, so cheer - i - ly, hap - py and

T tries. Then sing, oh, sing, so cheer - i - ly, hap - py and

B tries. Then sing, oh, sing, so cheer - i - ly, hap - py and

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S free; Then sing, oh, sing, for mer - ry, oh, mer - ry are we.

A free; Then sing, oh, sing, for mer - ry, oh, mer - ry are we.

T free; Then sing, oh, sing, for mer - ry, oh, mer - ry are we.

B free; Then sing, oh, sing, for mer - ry, oh, mer - ry are we.

S When I'm in song, no time is long, I love to lon - ger

A When I'm in song, no time is long, I love to lon - ger

T When I'm in song, no time is long, I love to lon - ger

B When I'm in song, no time is long, I love to lon - ger

# Oh, Why not Sing?

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S still; \_\_\_\_\_ And sweep the lyre, whose tones in - spire, And all my be - ing

A still; \_\_\_\_\_ And sweep the lyre, whose tones in - spire, And all my be - ing

T 8 still; \_\_\_\_\_ And sweep the lyre, whose tones in - spire, And all my be - ing

B still; \_\_\_\_\_ And sweep the lyre, whose tones in - spire, And all my be - ing

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S thrill. \_\_\_\_\_ Then sing, oh, sing, \_\_\_\_\_ so cheer - i - ly, hap - py and

A thrill. \_\_\_\_\_ Then sing, oh, sing, \_\_\_\_\_ so cheer - i - ly, hap - py and

T 8 thrill. \_\_\_\_\_ Then sing, oh, sing, \_\_\_\_\_ so cheer - i - ly, hap - py and

B thrill. \_\_\_\_\_ Then sing, oh, sing, \_\_\_\_\_ so cheer - i - ly, hap - py and

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S free; \_\_\_\_\_ Then sing, oh, sing, \_\_\_\_\_ for mer - ry, oh, mer - ry are we. \_\_\_\_\_

A free; \_\_\_\_\_ Then sing, oh, sing, \_\_\_\_\_ for mer - ry, oh, mer - ry are we. \_\_\_\_\_

T 8 free; \_\_\_\_\_ Then sing, oh, sing, \_\_\_\_\_ for mer - ry, oh, mer - ry are we. \_\_\_\_\_

B free; \_\_\_\_\_ Then sing, oh, sing, \_\_\_\_\_ for mer - ry, oh, mer - ry are we. \_\_\_\_\_

## Oh, Why not Sing?

S Oh, mu - sic dear, be mine to cheer This lone - ly vale of

A Oh, mu - sic dear, be mine to cheer This lone - ly vale of

T Oh, mu - sic dear, be mine to cheer This lone - ly vale of

B Oh, mu - sic dear, be mine to cheer This lone - ly vale of

36 S time, \_\_\_\_\_ And then a - bove, with those I love, I cease - less songs will

A time, \_\_\_\_\_ And then a - bove, with those I love, I cease - less songs will

T 8 time, \_\_\_\_\_ And then a - bove, with those I love, I cease - less songs will

B time, \_\_\_\_\_ And then a - bove, with those I love, I cease - less songs will

40 S chime. \_\_\_\_\_ Then sing, oh, sing, \_\_\_\_\_ so chher - i - ly, hap - py and

A chime. \_\_\_\_\_ Then sing, oh, sing, \_\_\_\_\_ so chher - i - ly, hap - py and

T 8 chime. \_\_\_\_\_ Then sing, oh, sing, \_\_\_\_\_ so chher - i - ly, hap - py and

B chime. \_\_\_\_\_ Then sing, oh, sing, \_\_\_\_\_ so chher - i - ly, hap - py and

# Oh, Why not Sing?

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S  
free; \_\_\_\_\_ Then sing, oh, sing, \_\_\_\_\_ for mer - ry. oh, mer - ry are we. \_\_\_\_\_

A  
free; \_\_\_\_\_ Then sing, oh, sing, \_\_\_\_\_ for mer - ry. oh, mer - ry are we. \_\_\_\_\_

T  
8  
free; \_\_\_\_\_ Then sing, oh, sing, \_\_\_\_\_ for mer - ry. oh, mer - ry are we. \_\_\_\_\_

B  
free; \_\_\_\_\_ Then sing, oh, sing, \_\_\_\_\_ for mer - ry. oh, mer - ry are we. \_\_\_\_\_

W. W. Whitney  
(1877)

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