



Brian Wilbur Grundstrom  
Composer



# How I Found Sam

lyrics by James Skofield



# 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

Tenor I *mp* When I was just a lit-tle boy and

Tenor II *mp* When I was just a lit-tle boy and

Baritone

Bass

Piano *mp*

5

T1 ma-king too much noise, my Ma-ma said, "Now, run a-long, and play out - side with the

T2 ma-king too much noise, my Ma-ma said, "Now, run a-long, and play out - side with the

Br

Bs

piano

7/23/2006

10

T1 boys."

T2 boys."

Br *mp* And so I went, and threw the ball and wre-sted and had fun. We knew our-

Bs *mp* And so I went, and threw the ball and wre-sted and had fun. We knew our-

piano

15

T1 *mf* When I was a big-ger boy, my

T2 *mf* When I was a big-ger boy, my

Br *mf* selves for what we were: just boys; and I was one. When I was a big-ger boy, my

Bs *mf* selves for what we were: just boys; and I was one. When I was a big-ger boy, my

piano

20

T1  
Dad-dy said to me, "It's time for you to leave off play-ing dolls and hav-ing

T2  
Dad-dy said to me, "It's time for you to leave off play-ing dolls and hav-ing

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

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

piano

25

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

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

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

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

piano

30

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

TI  
 — dolls weren't for boys; and that — was all. When I be-came a teen-a-ger, my

T2  
 — dolls weren't for boys; and that — was all. When I be-came a teen-a-ger, — my

Br  
 — dolls weren't for boys; and that — was — all.

Bs  
 — dolls weren't for boys; and that — was — all.

piano

35

TI  
 best friend said to — me,

T2  
 best friend said to me,

Br  
 "Why don't you date — a cheer-lead - er and have some fun, — like —

Bs  
 "Why — don't you date — a cheer-lead - er and have some fun, — like

35

piano

40

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

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

Br  
me?" Su - sie... know why it

Bs  
me?" Su - sie... *port.* know why it

piano

45

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

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

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

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

piano

52 *mf* *f* *ff*

T1 Sam, Sam, Sam, who made me want to die!

T2 Sam, Sam, Sam, who made me want to die!

Br Sam, Sam, Sam, who made me want to die!

Bs Sam, Sam, Sam, who made me want to die!

piano

59 *mf*

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

T2 Su - sie... Su - sie... Su - - - - sie...

Br Sue was sweet and Sue

Bs Oh, Sue was sweet and Sue was

piano

65

T1  
Sue was sweet and fine, \_\_\_\_\_ nice \_\_\_\_\_ as nice \_\_\_\_\_ as

T2  
Sue \_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_ sweet Sue was sweet and fine, nice as nice as

Br  
was fine, Sue \_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_ fine, as nice \_\_\_\_\_ as nice \_\_\_\_\_ as

Bs  
fine, sweet fine, sweet fine, as nice as

piano  
65

71

T1  
nice could be; \_\_\_\_\_ and eyes that *mp*

T2  
nice \_\_\_\_\_ could be; \_\_\_\_\_ and eyes that *mp*

Br  
nice could be; *mp* But Sam had shoul - ders like an ox

Bs  
nice could be; *mp* But Sam had shoul - ders like an ox

piano  
71

78

T1 called to me. My Ma - ma said, "it's just a phase!"

T2 called to me. My Ma - ma said, "it's just a phase!"

Br

Bs My

piano

85

T1 *pp* but Sam was all I dreamed a -

T2 *pp* but Sam was all I dreamed a -

Br *pp* Dad - dy's face grew red; but Sam was all I dreamed a -

Bs *pp* Dad - dy's face grew red; but Sam was all I dreamed a -

piano

91

*mf* *f*

*mf* *f*

*mf* *f*

*mf* *f*

T1  
 bout, a - lone, at night, in bed. Oh, Sue was sweet and Sue \_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Bs  
 bout, a - lone, at night, in bed. Oh, Sue was sweet and Sue \_\_\_\_\_

piano

*mf* *f*

98

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

T2  
 sie... Sue \_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_ sweet Sue was sweet and fine, nice as

Br  
 and Sue was fine, Sue \_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_ fine, as nice \_\_\_\_\_ as

Bs  
 \_\_\_\_\_ was \_\_\_\_\_ fine, sweet fine, sweet fine, as

piano

98

104

T1  
T2  
Br  
Bs

nice — as nice could be; You see, — I knew I wan-ted love... but

nice as nice could be; You see, — I knew I wan-ted love... but

nice as nice could be; You see, — I knew I wan-ted love... but

piano

111

T1  
T2  
Br  
Bs

not with Kate or Ma - ry. I di - dn't want that... soft - ness... but some - thing big and hai - ry.

not with Kate or Ma - ry. I di - dn't want that... soft - ness... but some - thing big and hai - ry.

not with Kate or Ma - ry. I di - dn't want that... soft - ness... but some - thing big and hai - ry.

piano

117

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

T2  
knew I wan-ted 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

123

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

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

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

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

piano

129

T1  
nice as nice could be; Oh!

T2  
Sue was sweet and fine. Oh!

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

Bs  
I want big and big and hai - ry. Oh!

piano

134 **150**

T1  
I tried to change, I swear it! I went out for the team;

T2  
I tried to change, I swear it!

Br  
I tried to change, I swear it!

Bs  
I tried to change, I swear it! I went out for the team;

piano

141

*p* <sup>♩</sup>80

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

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

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

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

*piano*

148

*mp* *f*

*T1*  
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*

153 *♩* 88 slightly faster

T1  
wet... He stared at me; I stared

T2  
wet... He stared at me; I stared

Br  
wet... He stared at me;

Bs  
wet... He stared at me;

piano

158 *ff*

T1  
right back... and then, and then, our two

T2  
right back... and then, and then, our two

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

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

piano

♩=120

faster

163

*mp* *f*

*mp* *f*

*mp* *f*

*mp* *f*

lips met... My best friend called me, My best friend called me, "Fag - got!"

lips met... best friend called me,

lips met... best friend called me,

lips met... My best friend called me, My best friend called me, "Fag - got!"

163

piano

167

*f*

*f*

*f*

*f*

*f*

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

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

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

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

167

piano

170

T1  
coach, he\_\_\_ called me, My coach, he\_\_\_ called me, "Queer!" I knew they did - n't

T2  
coach, he\_\_\_ called me, My coach, he\_\_\_ called me, "Queer!" I knew they did - n't

Br  
coach, he\_\_\_ called me, My coach, he\_\_\_ called me, "Queer!" I knew they did - n't

Bs  
coach, he\_\_\_ called me, My coach, he\_\_\_ called me, "Queer!" I knew they did - n't

piano

174

T1  
un - der - stand; un - der - stand; I\_\_\_ tried hard\_\_\_ not to care. My

T2  
un - der - stand; un - der - stand; I\_\_\_ tried hard\_\_\_ not to care.

Br  
un - der - stand; un - der - stand; I\_\_\_ tried hard\_\_\_ not to care.

Bs  
un - der - stand; un - der - stand; I\_\_\_ tried hard\_\_\_ not to care.

piano

179

T1  
best friend called me, "Fag-got!" My coach, he called me, "Queer!" I knew they did - n't un - der-stand; un - der-stand; I

T2  
not to care. 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!" "Fag-got!" "Queer!" I

Bs  
not to care. 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

*T1*  
coach ran off to sea. *f* And Su - sie's hun - ky bro - ther...? And Su - sie's hun - ky bro - ther...?

*T2*  
coach ran off to sea. *f* And Su - sie's hun - ky bro - ther...? And Su - sie's hun - ky bro - ther...?

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

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

*piano*

191

*T1*  
hun - ky bro - ther...? And Su - sie's hun - ky bro - ther...? He up and mar - - - ried... me!\_\_\_\_\_

*T2*  
bro - ther...? Su - sie's hun - ky bro - ther...? He up and mar - - - ried... me!\_\_\_\_\_

*Br*  
bro - ther...? Su - sie's hun - ky bro - ther...? He up and mar - - - ried... me!\_\_\_\_\_

*Bs*  
bro - ther...? Su - sie's hun - ky bro - ther...? He up and mar - - - ried... me!\_\_\_\_\_

*piano*

195

*mp*

And now that I'm a grown man, I

*mp*

And now that I'm a grown man, I

*mp*

And now that I'm a grown man, I

*mp*

And now that I'm a grown man, I

piano

*p*

*mp*

200

*mf*

still like making noise; I still enjoy the outdoors, and playing with the

*mf*

still like making noise; I still enjoy the outdoors, and playing with the

*mf*

still like making noise; I still enjoy the outdoors, and playing with the

*mf*

still like making noise; I still enjoy the outdoors, and playing 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

209

T1 *f* We know our - selves for what we are: just men; and we are one. *ff* broadly We know our - selves

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

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

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

piano

209 *f* broadly *ff*

214

*ff* *And* *ff* *And* *ff* *And* *ff* *And*

T1  
for what we are: just men; and we are one.

T2  
for what we are: just men; and we are one.

Br  
for what we are: just men; and we are one.

Bs  
for what we are: just men; and we are one.

piano

219  $\text{♩} = 70$

T1  
what be - came of Su - sie... that sweet, cheer - lead - ing

T2  
what be - came of Su - sie... that sweet, cheer - lead - ing

Br  
what Su - sie Su - sie Su - sie Su - sie Su - sie Su - sie

Bs  
what be - - - - came of Su - - - - -

piano

225

T1  
girl? Some - times she comes to vi - sit and brings her

T2  
girl? Some - times she comes to vi - sit and brings her

Br  
Su - sie Some - times she comes to vi - sit and brings her

Bs  
sie Some - times she comes to vi - - - sit and brings her

piano

232

T1  
lo - - - ver... Shirl!

T2  
lo - - - ver... Shirl!

Br  
lo - - - ver... Shirl!

Bs  
lo - - - ver... Shirl!

piano

poco ten.