

WAIT TILL THE SUN SHINES, NELLIE

1905

The composers of this popular classic, Andrew B. Sterling and Harry Von Tilzer, were two of the premier songwriters of the early 20th Century. Sterling, a native of New York City, began his career by writing parodies on popular songs of the day and continued writing special music for vaudeville acts throughout his long career. Harry Von Tilzer grew up in Indianapolis, Indiana and was the brother of Albert Von Tilzer; also a successful songwriter and a music publisher. Harry toured with a circus at age 14 and with burlesque and stock theater companies. In 1902 he started his own very successful music publishing company.


There is a certain folk quality about this song, a reminder that simplicity and naturalness are part of the secret to successful songwriting. "Wait Till The Sun Shines, Nellie" is certainly near the top of the list of all-time favorite barbershop harmony songs.

By **ANDREW B. STERLING** and **HARRY VON TILZER**
(1874-1955) (1872-1946)

VERSE:

The musical score is presented in a grand staff format, consisting of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats), and the time signature is common time (C). The score is divided into two systems. The first system contains measures 1 through 3, and the second system contains measures 4 through 6. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. Measure numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 are indicated above the treble staff. The lyrics are: "On a Sun - day morn_ sat a maid for-lorn_ With her sweet-heart by her side; Thru the win - dow pane_ she looked at the rain;_ 'We must". The music features a simple, folk-like melody with a steady bass line. The lyrics are: "On a Sun - day morn_ sat a maid for-lorn_ With her sweet-heart by her side; Thru the win - dow pane_ she looked at the rain;_ 'We must".

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7 8 9 10

stay home, Joe," she cried. "There's a pic-nic too, — at the Old Point View, — It's a she cried.



11 12 13

shame it rained to - day." Then the boy drew near, — kissed a - to - day."

14 15 16

way each tear, — And she heard him soft - ly say: —

CHORUS:

17 18 19 20 21 22 23

"Wait till the sun shines, Nel - lie, When the clouds go drift - ing

24 25 26 27 28 29

by, We will be hap - py, Nel - lie, Don't my hon - ey,

don't you cry.
 you cry; Down Lov - er's Lane we'll
 don't you cry. For we'll go
 wan - der, Sweet-hearts, you and I; Wait till the
 sun shines, Nel - lie, Bye and bye, Bye
 TAG:
 and bye and bye, bye and bye.
 tenor melody

Additional verse:

"How I long," she sighed, "for a trolley ride
 Just to show my brand new gown."
 Then she gazed on high with a gladsome cry
 For the sun came shining down.
 And she looked so sweet on the big front seat
 As the car sped on its way;
 And she whispered low, "Say, you're all right, Joe;
 You just won my heart today."