

I WANT A GIRL

(JUST LIKE THE GIRL THAT MARRIED DEAR OLD DAD)

1911

When Harry Von Tilzer composed "I Want A Girl Just Like The Girl That Married Dear Old Dad" with Will Dillon, he was already a famous musical personality, composer and publisher. Will Dillon was born in Cortland, New York in 1877, and performed in medicine shows, minstrel shows, vaudeville, and acted in numerous theatrical productions. He toured the U.S. and England, retiring from show business in 1912. He later became a builder, theater owner, and headed a finance company.

"I Want A Girl Just Like The Girl That Married Dear Old Dad," without doubt one of the finest close harmony songs ever written, seems to be almost universally known and loved. Just gather a group of singers around a piano and you're sure to hear it sooner or later.

Words by WILLIAM DILLON
(1877-1966)

Music by HARRY VON TILZER
(1872-1946)

INTRO: (optional)

The musical score is presented in two systems. Each system consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The first system covers the lyrics "I'd like to find a girl just like the girl who" and includes measure numbers 1 through 4. The second system covers the lyrics "married my dear old Dad." and includes measure numbers 5 through 8. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line with chords that support the vocal melody. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is common time (C).

VERSE:

8 9 10 11 12

When I was a boy my moth - er of - ten said to me, "Get

Detailed description: This system contains measures 9 through 12. The music is written for voice and piano. The voice line starts on a G4 note and moves stepwise up to a G5 note. The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. Measure numbers 9, 10, 11, and 12 are indicated above the staff. A piano dynamic marking of '8' is at the beginning.

8 13 14 15 16

mar - ried, boy, and see how hap - py you will be."

Detailed description: This system contains measures 13 through 16. The voice line continues from the previous system, ending on a G5 note. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and a bass line. Measure numbers 13, 14, 15, and 16 are indicated above the staff. A piano dynamic marking of '8' is at the beginning.

8 17 18 19 20

I have looked all o - ver but no girl - ie can I find Who

Detailed description: This system contains measures 17 through 20. The voice line starts on a G4 note and moves up to a G5 note. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and a bass line. Measure numbers 17, 18, 19, and 20 are indicated above the staff. A piano dynamic marking of '8' is at the beginning.

8 21 22 23 24

seems to be just like the lit - tle girl I have in mind.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 21 through 24. The voice line starts on a G4 note and moves up to a G5 note. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and a bass line. Measure numbers 21, 22, 23, and 24 are indicated above the staff. A piano dynamic marking of '8' is at the beginning.

8 25 26 27 28

I will have to look a - round un - til the right one I have found!

Detailed description: This system contains measures 25 through 28. The voice line starts on a G4 note and moves up to a G5 note. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and a bass line. Measure numbers 25, 26, 27, and 28 are indicated above the staff. A piano dynamic marking of '8' is at the beginning.

CHORUS:

29 30 31 32

I want a girl, just like the girl that

Detailed description: This system contains measures 29 through 32. The music is written for voice and piano. The voice line starts with a quarter note 'I' on a whole note, followed by 'want' on a quarter note, 'a' on a quarter note, 'girl,' on a quarter note, 'just' on a quarter note, 'like' on a quarter note, 'the' on a quarter note, 'girl' on a quarter note, and 'that' on a quarter note. The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and bass notes in the left hand.

33 34 35 36

mar - ried dear old Dad.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 33 through 36. The voice line has 'mar - ried' on a half note, 'dear' on a half note, 'old' on a half note, and 'Dad.' on a half note. The piano accompaniment features chords in the right hand and bass notes in the left hand. A fermata is placed over the final note of the voice line.

37 38 39 40

She was a pearl and the on - ly girl that

Detailed description: This system contains measures 37 through 40. The voice line starts with a quarter note 'She' on a whole note, followed by 'was' on a quarter note, 'a' on a quarter note, 'pearl' on a quarter note, 'and' on a quarter note, 'the' on a quarter note, 'on - ly' on a quarter note, 'girl' on a quarter note, and 'that' on a quarter note. The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and bass notes in the left hand.

41 42 43 44

Dad - dy ev - er had. A

Detailed description: This system contains measures 41 through 44. The voice line has 'Dad - dy' on a half note, 'ev - er' on a half note, 'had.' on a half note, and 'A' on a half note. The piano accompaniment features chords in the right hand and bass notes in the left hand. A fermata is placed over the final note of the voice line.

45 46 47 48

good old fash - ioned girl with heart so true,

Detailed description: This system contains measures 45 through 48. The voice line starts with a quarter note 'good' on a whole note, followed by 'old' on a quarter note, 'fash - ioned' on a quarter note, 'girl' on a quarter note, 'with' on a quarter note, 'heart' on a quarter note, 'so' on a quarter note, and 'true,' on a quarter note. The piano accompaniment consists of chords in the right hand and bass notes in the left hand.

49 50 51 52

8 One who loves no - bod - y else but you.

53 54 55 56

8 I want a girl, just like the girl that

57 58 59 60

8 mar - ried dear old Dad. TAG: That

61 62 63 64

8 mar - ried my dear old, dear old Dad!

Additional verse:

By the old mill stream there sits a couple old and gray,
 Though years have rolled away, their hearts are young today.
 Mother dear looks up at Dad with lovelight in her eye,
 He steals a kiss, a fond embrace, while evening breezes sigh.
 They're as happy as can be, so that's the kind of love for me.