

Composer's Note

Written as an entry for the choral composition contest, the text is my remembrance of hearing the train rumbling by the river a few miles away from my boyhood home in Virginia. In high school, my best friend and I would skip school to ride the train to Richmond, Virginia and Washington, DC. In college, I rode the train to school in Boston. I suppose we all had wanderlust in our youth and we wished at times to ride a train faraway.

Thomas Keesecker

Going

The train is on the railroad track,
I hear the whistle blowing.
The train is on the railroad track,
I hear the whistle blowing.
Wheels are turning round and round,
where they're bound, I don't know.
But I would ride that train faraway,
just to see where it is going.

Take me North, or take me South,
East or West, I don't mind.
My restless soul will be lifted up,
when my train rolls into town,
when my train comes into town.
And I will be free to see what I can see,
to see what I can see.

The train is on the railroad track,
I hear the whistle blowing.
The train is on the railroad track,
I hear the whistle blowing.
Wheels are turning round and round,
where they're bound, I don't know.
But I would ride that train faraway,
just to see where I am going.

—Thomas Keesecker

Thomas Keesecker (b. 1956)

For biographical information visit:
www.ecspublishing.com

Catalog No. 1.3730

Winner of the 2024 Huntsville Master Chorale Choral Composition Contest
 Premiered at "Songs of Travel," May 3, 2024, Dr. Patricia Ramirez Hacker, conductor

Going

for SATB Chorus unaccompanied

Words and Music by
 Thomas Keesecker

Slow and expressive ♩ = 72-76
 like a folk song

Soprano
 Alto

[opt. Solo]
 unis. *p*

Tenor
 Bass

The train is on the rail-road track, I hear the whis-tle blow-ing. The

mp

5

train is on the rail - road track, I hear the whis - tle

train is on the rail - road track, I hear the whis - tle

8

mf

blow-ing. The train is on the rail - road track, I hear the whis - tle

mf

blow-ing. The train is on the rail - road track, I hear the whis - tle

a tempo

12 *slight rit.* Wheels__ are turn - ing round and round, _____
 blow - ing. Wheels__ are turn - ing round and round, _____
 blow - ing. Wheels__ are turn - ing round and round, _____

15 _____
 But I would ride that
 where they're bound, I do not know. _____ I would ride that

rit.

18 _____ *p* just to see where it is go - ing. _____
 train__ far - a - way, _____
 train__ far - a - way, _____ *p*

a tempo

22 *mf* Take me North, or take me South, _ East or West, I don't mind. _ My *unis.*
mf Take me North, or take me South, East or West, I don't mind. _ My *unis.*

26 *f*

rest - less soul_ will be lift - ed up, when my train rolls in - to

rest - less soul_ will be lift - ed up, when my train rolls in - to

29 *mf*

town, when my train rolls in - to town. And I will be free to

town, when my train rolls in - to town. And I will be free to

33 *f* *rit.* *mf* *mp*

see what I can see! To see what I can see. The

see what I can see! To see what I can see. The

37 *a tempo* *mf*

train is on the rail - road track, I hear the whis - tle blow - ing. The

train is on the rail - road track, I hear the whis - tle blow - ing. The

41

train is on the rail - road track, I hear the whis - tle

train is on the rail - road track, I hear the whis - tle

44

blow - ing. Round and round, I

blow - ing. Wheels are turn - ing round and round, where they're bound, I

blow - ing. Wheels are turn - ing round and round, where they're bound, I

48

do not know. Just to see,

do not know. Just to see,

do not know. But I would ride that train far - a - way

53

Just to see where I am go - - ing.

Just to see where I am go - - ing.