



What Once Was

for four-part chorus of mixed voices

by D. James Royer

What Once Was

For Four-Part Chorus of Mixed Voices

Adagio with movement

D. James Royer

Bass

4

So ____ long a - go I was a - lone, a - lone, ____

4

But ____ what once was can ne - ver be, _____ for as time _____

7

Alto

Grow - ing to - ge - ther, to -

Bass

flows, so shall we. Grow - ing to - ge - ther, to -

11

ge - ther, add - ing to each oth -

Bass

ge - ther, add - ing to each oth -

14

er, One ____ as the o - ther so shall we.

Bass

er, One ____ as the oth - er so shall we.

17

Soprano *p*
 Starting off a - lone, each one a - lone, a - lone, —

Alto *p*
 Starting off a - lone, each one a - lone, a - lone, —

Tenor *p*
 Starting off a - lone, each one a - lone, a - lone, —

Bass *p*
 Starting off a - lone, each one a - lone, a - lone, —

Piano *(for rehearsal only)*

20

Who — were we, — less than stone — so — long a - go, who were

Who — were we, — less than stone — so — long a - go, — who were

Who — were we, — less than stone — so — long a - go, who were

Who — were we, — less than stone — so — long a - go, who were

Piano

24



we? I found you _____ and you found me _____
 we? I found you _____ and you found me _____
 we? I found you _____ and you found me _____
 we? I found you _____ and you found me _____

8

28



Now we stand here be -fore thee, now we stand strong here and
 Now we stand here be -fore thee, now we stand strong here and
 Now we stand here be -fore thee, now we stand strong here and
 Now we stand here be -fore thee, now we stand strong here and

32



now; A — cir - cle of friends, a — cir - cle un - brok - en

now; A — cir - cle of friends, a — cir - cle un - brok - en

now; A — cir - cle of friends, a — cir - cle un - brok - en

now; A — cir - cle of friends, a — cir - cle un - brok - en

now; A — cir - cle of friends, a — cir - cle un - brok - en

now; A — cir - cle of friends, a — cir - cle un - brok - en

now; A — cir - cle of friends, a — cir - cle un - brok - en

now; A — cir - cle of friends, a — cir - cle un - brok - en

36



As — ne - ver be - fore and for - ev - er, for - ev - er shall

As — ne - ver be - fore and for - ev - er, for - ev - er shall

As — ne - ver be - fore and for - ev - er, for - ev - er shall

As — ne - ver be - fore and for - ev - er, for - ev - er shall

As — ne - ver be - fore and for - ev - er, for - ev - er shall

As — ne - ver be - fore and for - ev - er, for - ev - er shall

39

Solo (ah__)

be, we shall be. Be - tween us now are bonds that can - not
 be, we shall be. Be - tween us now are bonds that can - not
 be, we shall be. Be - tween us now are bonds that can - not
 be, we shall be. Be - tween us now are bonds that can - not

(ah__)

(ah__)

43

(ah__)

break True friends we stand, strong, for-
 break True friends we stand, strong, for-
 break True friends we stand, strong, for-

break True friends we stand, strong, for-

(ah__)

(ah__)

46

(ah ah)
er, for - ev - er so shall we
subito p
er, for - ev - er so shall we
subito p
er, for - ev - er so shall we
subito p
er, for - ev - er so shall we

50

be as one soul. (ah)
as one soul.
as one soul.
as one soul.