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TAKING A CHANCE ON LOVE

Words by JOHN LaTOUCHE and TED FETTER

Music by VERNON DUKE
Arrangement by ED WAESCHE

Verse *freely*

Tenor Lead

I thought love's game was o - ver; La - dy Luck had gone a -

Bari Bass


way. I laid my cards on the ta - ble, un -

a - ble to play. Then I heard good for - tune

Taking a Chance on Love

10 11 12

say, "They're deal - ing you a new hand to - day!" Oh,

Chorus 

13 14 15

Here I go a - gain, I hear those trum - pets
the

I hear _____

16 17 18

blow a - gain. All a - glow a - gain,
so all a - glow

I'm oh, so all a - glow

19 20 21

chance, on the
tak - ing a chance on love. Here I
chance, on love. Here I

Taking a Chance on Love

22 slide a - gain, — 23 a - bout to take that 24 ride a - gain, — and, 3

a - bout — and,

25 oh, so star - ry - eyed 26 star - ry - eyed a - gain, — 27 tak - ing a chance on

oh, star - ry - eyed a - gain, — tak - ing a chance on

28 on love. I 29 thought that cards — were a 30 frame - up — I

on love. I thought that cards — were a frame - up — I

31 nev - er — would try. 32 But 33 now I'm tak - ing the

nev - er — would try. But now I'm tak - ing the

Taking a Chance on Love

34 35 36

game up, — and the ace of hearts is high. —

37 38 39

Things are mend - ing now. — I see a rain - bow

I see —

40 41 42

blend - ing now. — We'll have a hap - py end - ing now, —

43 44 45

love, on love. I saw a

tak - ing a chance on love. — Yes, I thought cards — were a

love, on love. I saw a

46 frame - up I 47 nev - er 48 would try. But

49 I'll take the 50 now I'm tak - ing the game up, 51 and the ace of hearts is

52 I'll take the high, it's high! 53 high! Things are mend - ing now. 54 high, it's high! I see

55 I see a rain - bow 56 blend - ing now. 57 We'll have a hap - py

Taking a Chance on Love

The musical score is presented in a grand staff format with two systems. The first system covers measures 58 to 60, and the second system covers measures 61 to 66. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. Measure numbers 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, and 66 are indicated above the staff. The lyrics are: "end - ing now, — tak - ing a chance, tak - ing a chance, tak - ing a chance on love. love, on love." The score includes various musical notations such as triplets, slurs, and fermatas. The bass line features a triplet in measure 63.

Performance Notes

Taking a Chance on Love was introduced in the 1940 show **Cabin in the Sky**, a ground-breaking musical with an all-black cast, where the song was performed by Ethel Waters and Dooley Wilson. It soon became a standard and since has been recorded by many artists. The re-released Benny Goodman version, featuring Helen Forrest, reached #1 in 1943.

The melody, with its skipping rhythm and upward-lifting theme, seems to represent happy optimism. The success of the song is largely due to the skillfully subtle lyrics; for example: "Things are mending now. I see a rainbow blending now. We'll have a happy ending now, taking a chance on love."

Ed Waesche, Barbershopper extraordinaire and pre-eminent arranger, captured the essence of the song in this fine arrangement. The swing feeling starting at the chorus (measure 13) is essential to the effective performance of the melody and lyric. Once the chorus begins, maintain the tempo to the end.

As a final note: Questions about the contest suitability of this or any other song/arrangement should be directed to the judging community and measured against current contest rules. Ask *before* you sing.