



GOLD MEDAL SERIES

SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF  
BARBER SHOP QUARTET SINGING IN AMERICA INC.

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WORDS & MUSIC

Dorothy Fields

and

Jimmy McHugh

ARRANGEMENT

Lou Perry

# DON'T BLAME ME

as sung by Boston Common

STOCK NO. 8819

## Verse

Tenor Lead

Bari Bass

Ev-er since that luck-y day I found you, I've hung a - round you just like a  
found you round you  
fool. Fall-ing head and heels in love like a kid out of school,  
love like a kid out  
My poor heart is in an aw-ful state now, 'cause it's too late now to call a halt.  
state now, late late now

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12

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## Don't Blame Me

13 (h) So if I be - come a nuis - ance, it's all your fault! 14 15 16 (h)

## Chorus

17 18 19 20 21

So don't blame me for fall - ing in love with you. I'm un - der your spell, but

22 23 24 25 26

how can I help it? Don't blame me. Can't you see when

Don't blame me.

27 28 29 30 31

you do the things you do? My heat can't con - ceal the thrill that I'm feel - ing, don't blame

me. I can't help it if that dog-gone moon a - bove makes me  
it makes me need  
a - bove

need some-one like you to love. So blame your kiss, as sweet as a kiss can  
blame your

be. And blame all your charms that melt in my arms, but don't blame me, For  
don't blame me,

Tag

fall-ing in love, fall-ing in love with you.  
with you.

## *Performance Notes*

Jimmy McHugh (1894-1969) was an important composer of popular songs over a long, prolific career. His earlier, most successful songs were written in collaboration with well-known lyricist, Dorothy Fields (1905-1974). Some of their most memorable songs were: *I Can't Give You Anything But Love*, *On The Sunny Side Of The Street*, *Exactly Like You*, and *Don't Blame Me*. Each went on to write with other collaborators and left a legacy of great songs to us.

Lou Perry, affectionately referred to as the "Tucson Troll," is one the best-loved arrangers in the world of barbershop harmony. His sensitivity to the song, his ability to create a fun, singable chart are remarkable. Lou was the coach for Boston Common and a number of fine quartets. Boston Common won the SPEBSQSA international quartet championship in 1980 in Salt Lake City.

In performing *Don't Blame Me*, sing the verse in a free style. Measures 2-3, 6-7 and 10-11 may need a more rhythmic feel in order to synchronize the parts and take advantage of the forward motion created by this interesting treatment. At measure 16 begin a nice 4/4 beat like a slow dance. Measures 33-40 can be performed with an ad lib, rubato approach to emphasize the lyrics. Go back to tempo with the pickup notes in measure 40, then starting at measure 47 through the tag, use rubato and lots of expression. The Boston Common recording of *Don't Blame Me* is a fine example of how this song might be successfully interpreted.

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