

Ordinary People

From the Bicentennial Wagon Train Show (1976)
for SATB Chorus, Solo Voice and Piano
with optional guitars and string bass

Lyrics by
Roger Cornish

Music by
Bruce Trinkley

*In this two hundredth year of our ship of state,
We remember the giants who made us great.
Washington, Lincoln, and Thomas Paine,
Rightly enshrined in the hall of fame.
They were strong but they're long in the past.
Now the future is happening fast.
Tell me who can we count on?
What heroes will stand in their stead
For the two hundred years up ahead?*

*Ordinary people, like you, like me,
Ordinary people, look around.
You'll like what you see.
Try the nearest fellow, it's him, it's her.
Just a little hello
You could be
Two times what you were.
People who live with us, people who give with us,
Make us strong.
We're hearing a diff'rent drum, one that calls everyone,
Come, come and join the song.
Ordinary people, ordinary people,
Ordinary people, like you, like me.
Ordinary people, look around.
You'll love who you see.
Ordinary people, who are you, you, you and me.*

Optional Spoken Introduction:

Now you know who we are – and of course, you know why the Wagon Train is here
– to help us share the Bicentennial together.
Now you need to know what the show's about.
Well, it *isn't* about our whole two hundred years of war and peace and great events
– that's too much for one little show to handle.
It's about one special thing – Ordinary People!

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Fast and driving *f*

Solo

Piano

In this two hun-dredth year of our ship of state, _____

We re - mem - ber the gi - ants who made us great. _____

Wash - ing - ton, Lin - coln, and Thom - as Paine, _____

Right - ly en - shrined in the hall of fame. _____

Chords: D7Mm, Bb, Gm7, D7Mm, Gm7, E7/G#

Dynamic markings: *f*, *mf*

9

They were strong but they're long in the past. Now the fu - ture is hap-pen-ing fast.____

9

Asus4 D7Mm Bb

12

Tell me who can we count on?_____ What he - roes will stand in their stead____

12

D7Mm Bb D7Mm

15

solo soprano mp allarg.

For the two hun-dred years up a-head?

mf

For the two hun-dred years up a - head?

15

Bb Gm7

mf mp

18 Gentle rock ♩ = 54

men p

Or - di - nar - y peo - ple, _____ like you, _____ like me, _____

18 *p*

C F C F C F C F C F C F C

*women**pp*

Or - di - nar - y peo - ple, _____ like you, _____ like me, _____

*mp**cresc.*

Or - di - nar - y peo - ple, _____ look _____ a -

20 *F C F C F C F C*

*mp**cresc.**f**decresc.*

Or - di - nar - y peo - ple, _____ look _____ a - round. You'll like _____ what you

*f**decresc.*

round, _____

You'll

like _____

what

you

22 *mp cresc.* *f* *decresc.*

E A C E7 Am C/G FMaj7 Am/G

25 *mp*

see. Try the near - est fel - low, it's him, it's

8 see. Try the near - est fel - low, _____ it's him, it's

25 C F C F C F C C F C F

mp

27 *cresc.*

her. Just a lit - tle hel - lo You could

8 her. Just a lit - tle hel - lo _____ You _____ could

27 C F C F C F C C F C C Maj7

29 *f* *decresc.*

You could be be Two times _____ what you

8 be _____ Two times _____ what you

29 E A C E7 Am Am/G FM7 Am/G

cresc. *f* *decresc.*

32 *mf*

were. Peo - ple who live ___ with us, peo - ple who give ___ with us,

32 *mf*

were. Peo - ple who live ___ with us, peo - ple who give ___ with us,

C F C F C F C F

34 *f* *mf*

Make us strong. We're hear - ing a diff - 'rent drum, one that calls ev - ry - one,

34 *f* *mf*

Make us strong. We're hear - ing a diff - 'rent drum, one that calls ev - ry - one,

34 A \flat B \flat C F

36 *f*

Come, come and join the song. _____

36 *f*

Come, come and join the song. _____

36 B \flat C9 D

38 *mf* Or - di - nar - y peo - ple, *mp* or - di - nar - y peo - ple,

8 Oo

38 *mf* *dim.*

40 Or - di - nar - y peo - ple, like you, like me.

40 *mp* C F C F C F C F C F C F C F C

42 *cresc.* look a - round.

8 *cresc.* #8

42 C F C E A C E7

cresc.

44 *f* *sopranos divisi*

You'll love _____

You'll love _____ who you

You'll love _____ who you

f

You'll love _____ who you

44 Am C/G FM7 Am/G

f

46 *soprano 1*

You'll love _____ who you see. Or - di - nar - y peo - ple, _____

soprano 2

see. Or - di - nar - y peo - ple, _____ who _____ are

alto

Or - di - nar - y peo - ple, _____ who _____

tenor

see. Or - di - nar - y peo - ple, _____ who _____ are

baritone

see. Or - di - nar - y peo - ple, _____ who _____

46 Am C/G FM7 Am/G Am C/G

49 *dim.*

— who are you, you — and me.

dim.

you, you, you and me.

are you, you, Or - di - nar - y peo - ple, who are

8 you, you, you and me. Or - di - nar - y peo - ple, who are

dim.

49 are you, you, you and me.

FM7 C/G Am C/G

51 *allarg.*

dim. *espress.*

you, you, you and me.

dim. *espress.*

you, you, you and me.

allarg.

51 F9 C/G C F C C

dim. *p*