

# Why is it so Hard?

(Mezzo-Soprano Aria from *Sun Dance*)

Lyrics by Leonard Walton

Music by Matthew J. Walton

*j = 84*

Piano {

Why is it so hard? It was so

Reed. ^ sim.

Pno. {

clear on that first day, and so beau - ti - ful. We had come to - ge - ther as In - dians of All

Pno. {

Tribes and we felt a one - ness that had nev - er ex - ist - ed be - fore. Why is it so

Pno. {

hard? Is it be - cause we were nev - er one tribe be - fore? Be - cause we lived on those sep - rate res - er - va - tions

Pno. {

13

as peo - ple tried to take the In - dian out of us. Why is it so

Pno.

13

Pno.

16

hard? Is it be - cause some of us who are old want to keep the few things we've

Pno.

16

Pno.

19

got - ten. While some of us who are young want to put all we have at risk for this new

Pno.

19

Pno.

23

free-dom. Why is it so hard? Is it be-cause we real-ly can't go

Pno.

23

3

29

back to be-ing In - dians a-gain? Is that lost to us for - ev-er? Is the onl-y way left for us to go

Pno.

29

for-ward in the white world? Why is it so

Pno.

36

hard? It was so clear on that first day, and so beau - ti - ful. We had come to -

Pno.

41

geth - er as In - dians of All Tribes and we felt a one - ness that had -

Pno.

44

46

nev - er ex - ist - ed be - fore. Can we find it a - gain?

*rit.*

Pno.

46

Detailed description: The musical score is for voice and piano. The vocal part begins with a series of eighth-note pairs in common time, followed by a single quarter note, another single quarter note, and then a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. The piano part provides harmonic support with eighth-note chords in both the treble and bass staves. The vocal line includes lyrics: 'nev - er ex - ist - ed be - fore. Can we find it a - gain?'. A dynamic marking 'rit.' (ritardando) is placed above the vocal line at the end of the measure. The piano part is indicated by a brace and the label 'Pno.'.