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CALIFORNIA HERE I COME

Words and Music by JOSEPH MEYER,
 AL JOLSON, and BUD DE SYLVA

Arrangement by DAVE STEVENS

Verse

Tenor Lead

8

1 2 3 4

When the win - try winds are blow - in', and the

Bari Bass

5 6 7 8

snow is start - ing in - to fall, starts to fall,

9 10 11 12

then my eyes turn west - ward, know - ing that's the

CALIFORNIA, HERE I COME

Words and Music by AL JOLSON, BUD DeSYLVA and JOSEPH MEYER

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California Here I Come

best of all. _____

place I love the best of all. _____

best of all. _____

Cal - i - for - nia, I've been blue, _____

since I've been a - way from you. _____

I can't wait 'til I get go - in', e - ven

California Here I Come

29 30 31 32

now I'm start - ing in to call, hear me call. —

Detailed description: This block contains the first system of musical notation, measures 29 through 32. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody in the treble clef includes a fermata over measure 31. The lyrics are: "now I'm start - ing in to call, hear me call. —".

Chorus

33 34 35 36

Cal - i - for - nia here I come, —

Detailed description: This block contains the second system of musical notation, measures 33 through 36. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody in the treble clef includes a fermata over measure 36. The lyrics are: "Cal - i - for - nia here I come, —".

37 38 39 40

right back where I start - ed from, —

I'm go - ing

Detailed description: This block contains the third system of musical notation, measures 37 through 40. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody in the treble clef includes a fermata over measure 40. The lyrics are: "right back where I start - ed from, —" and "I'm go - ing".

41 42 43 44

where bow - ers of flow - ers bloom in the sun. —

back where bow - ers full of flow - ers

Detailed description: This block contains the fourth system of musical notation, measures 41 through 44. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody in the treble clef includes a fermata over measure 44. The lyrics are: "where bow - ers of flow - ers bloom in the sun. —" and "back where bow - ers full of flow - ers".

California Here I Come

45 46 47 48

Each morn - ing, at dawn-ing, bird - ies sing an' ev - 'ry - thing. A
There each morn - ing, right at dawn-ing,

49 50 51 52

sun - kissed miss said, "Don't be late,"

53 54 55 56

that's why I can har - dly wait.

57 58 59 60

O - pen up that Gold - en Gate. Cal - i -

California Here I Come

61 62 63 64 **Reprise**
slower

for - nia, here I come. A love - ly

65 66 67 68 69

sun - kissed miss said, "Don't be late," that's why

70 71 72 73

I can hard - ly wait. O - pen

74 75 76 77 78 *a tempo*

up that Gold - en Gate! Cal - i -

Tag

79 for - nia, 80 here I, 81 I'm on the way _____ to - day
my

83 that's where I'm gon - na stay, 84 85 Cal - i - for - nia,

86 here I 87 come. _____ 88

Performance Notes

California, Here I Come started as a studio recording by Al Jolson. It was recorded in 1924 and was soon added to the Broadway musical **Bombo** during the show's run. The song was written by Buddy DeSylva and Joseph Meyer, with Jolson often listed as a co-author. It is often called the unofficial state song of California.

Arranger Dave Stevens worked for the Barbershop Harmony Society for many years as Music Publications Editor and also Music Services Field Man. Now deceased, he was one of the most influential leaders in teaching the characteristics of barbershop style music. Dave's presentation *What Are We Trying to Preserve* is considered a classic and is available on the Society's YouTube Channel at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sqta40448Ik>.

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.

