

Piano Solo

I've Been Working on the Railroad

\$2.00

I'VE BEEN WORKING ON THE RAILROAD

AMERICAN FOLK SONG

Arranged by

CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

cantareworks

THE MUSIC OF CHRISTOPHER ALEXANDER

About the Work

You have never heard the famous folk song played like this before! So many interpretations of this song from other composers have played the melody straight-forward, but this arrangement paints the picture of the railroad. With staccato strikes resembling the hammering of nails to build the tracks and an ostinato pattern that mimics the speed of the wheels, this arrangement will take you and your audience on a joyride you will not forget anytime soon. You can even blow the whistle (or at least play it on the piano) as you perform this work.

I've Been Working On the Railroad is included in the collection:

TEN AMERICAN FOLK SONGS SOLO PIANO

About the Arranger



Mr. Christopher Alexander is an award-winning composer and arranger from St. Joseph, Missouri. He received his Bachelor of Science in Vocal Music Education degree from Missouri Western State University in 2009. A self-taught pianist, his compositions and arrangements ranging from instrumental works to vocal solo and choral literature. Mr. Alexander has been commissioned numerous times by singing groups and church choirs within the northwest Missouri and northeast Kansas regions. He is also active in musical theatre productions as a music director and pianist. His works have been published with GIA Music Publications and Hal Leonard.

In 2016, he was awarded the St. Joseph Allied Arts Council Mayor's Award for Artist of the Year. In 2022, he was inducted into the New Generation Singers Hall of Fame.

Mr. Alexander currently serves as the pianist and primary arranger for The New Generation Singers, a Christian singing youth group based in St. Joseph, Missouri. He is a member of NAFME, ACDA, MCDA, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity.

He is available for commissions and conducting events on request.

To find more vocal and instrumental works
of Christopher Alexander, visit

www.cantareworks.com

*Original compositions and arrangements
are available for purchase from:*

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Moderato giusto (♩ = c. 112)

*like a hammer
striking nails*

The musical score is written for piano in 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a grand staff with a treble and bass clef. The first system starts with a dynamic marking of *mf*. The right hand plays a series of chords, each with a hammer-on effect indicated by a small vertical line above the notes. The left hand plays a simple rhythmic accompaniment. The second system begins at measure 9, and the third system begins at measure 13. The piece concludes with a final chord in the right hand and a whole note in the left hand.

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17

21

25

29

33

Very slow, almost a standstill (♩ = 4)

p *trco. e cresc.* *repeat ad libitum*

like a train picking up speed

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37

Musical notation for measures 37-40. The right hand (treble clef) features a melodic line with a slur over measures 37 and 38, and a fermata over measure 39. The left hand (bass clef) plays a steady accompaniment of eighth notes. Dynamics include *mf* and *(accel. e cresc.)*.

41

Musical notation for measures 41-44. The right hand has a melodic line with a slur over measures 41 and 42, and a fermata over measure 43. The left hand continues with eighth-note accompaniment.

45

Musical notation for measures 45-47. The right hand has a melodic line with a slur over measures 45 and 46, and a fermata over measure 47. The left hand continues with eighth-note accompaniment.

48

repeat ad libitum

Musical notation for measures 48-50. Measures 48 and 49 are marked with repeat signs. Measure 50 features a fermata in the right hand and a decrescendo hairpin in the left hand.

51

as fast as possible!

Musical notation for measures 51-54. The right hand has a melodic line with a slur over measures 51 and 52, and a fermata over measure 53. The left hand continues with eighth-note accompaniment. Dynamics include *f*.