

How Sweet the Sound

SATB with Opt. Rhythm, Percussion and Alto Sax

John Newton: st. 1-3

Anonymous: st. 4

Tr. adapted by Karen Dickey

Mark Hayes

*Tune: AMAZING GRACE
Virginia Harmony; 1831*

From the composer...

Some years ago I traveled to Recife, Brazil for the first time and had the opportunity to teach and perform at a local seminary. One afternoon after I had performed some of my gospel hymn arrangements for piano, a student asked if I could play something in a “bossa” style, which of course is indigenous to Brazil. Since I had no clue how to do that, I asked him to demonstrate first and then I tried my hand at it. In order to involve the class, I suggested that we sing “Amazing Grace” and I would accompany them in a bossa style, with a $\frac{4}{4}$ meter instead of the original $\frac{3}{4}$ meter. I was struggling along, trying not to look too foolish, when the entire class spontaneously started making mouth noises and slapping parts of their bodies in time to the music creating an instant Brazilian percussion section! The effect was incredible and made me sound like a true *brasileiro*. That experience was my inspiration for this arrangement.

① Gentle bossa feel

SA *sing 2nd time only*
mp

How sweet— the sound— that I— have heard.—
Que dul - ce es — su gra - cia.—

TB *sing 2nd time only*

Gentle bossa feel $\text{♩} = 72$

GMaj7 GMaj7 Dm7/G G7

mp

Duration: 3:45

Also available: TTBB (10/3435M)

Performance/Accompaniment CD (99/1978M)

Parts for Alto Sax, Master Rhythm (Piano, Bass, Gtr., Drums) and Percussion (30/2121M)

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Yes, it was the Lord who res - cued me, — such a - maz - ing
Si, fue el Se - ñor que me — sal - vó — con su gra -

CMaj9 F13#11 F9

8

grace. A - maz - ing grace,
cia. Su - bli - me gra -

GMaj9 G7

12

— how sweet, how sweet the sound
cia que que dul - ce es

CMaj9 GMaj9

16

that saved such a soul
que a un* in fe liz

F#m7(b5) B7(b9) Em Em#7 Em7/A A9

20

like me.
sal - vó.

mf 3

Am⁷/₄ Bm7 C2

24

I once was lost,
Yo fui cie - go,

D7sus D13 D7 GMaj9 F/G G⁶/₉

*In Spanish, when multiple words are given for a single note, sing as if a single word.
Here pronounced (kā-ä-OON).