

Twila's Song (Love Never Fails)

Music: Lyle Stutzman

Text: Adapted from John 16:33 and
1 Corinthians 13:8, 12-13

Voices: SATB divisi w/tenor solo
A cappella



BLUE SKY
M U S I C

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Twila's Song

(Love Never Fails)

Adapted from John 16:33 and 1 Corinthians 13:8, 12-13

Lyle Stutzman

♩ = 72

2 3 4 5

TENOR SOLO

SOPRANO

ALTO

TENOR

BASS

mp

mp

mp

mp

♩ = 72

(for rehearsal only)

6 7 9 10

mf

mf

mf

mf

la - tion. In the world you will have, you will have trib-u -

la - tion. In the world you will have, you will have trib-u -

la - tion. In the world you will have, you will have trib-u -

la - tion. In the world you will have, you will have trib-u -

la - tion. In the world you will have, you will have trib-u -

la - tion. In the world you will have, you will have trib-u -

11 12 **B** *mp* 14 15

la - tion. But take heart,

la - tion.

la - tion. *mp* I have o - ver-come the

la - tion. *mp* I have o - ver-come the

16 17 18 19 *f*

take heart, take heart.

mp I have o - ver - come, o - ver-come the world. *f* I have o - ver-come the

world. *f* I have o - ver-come the world.

world. *f* I have o - ver-come the world. I have o - ver - come the

20 21 **C** *p* 23 24

Love, love nev-er fails. Love, love

p

world, o-ver-come the world. Love, love nev-er fails. Love, love

I have o-ver-come the world.

world, o-ver-come the world.

25 26 *mp* 27 28 29

nev-er fails. Love, love nev-er fails. Love, love nev-er fails.

mp

nev-er fails. Love, love nev-er fails. Love, love nev-er fails.

mp

Love nev-er fails, love nev-er fails. Love, love nev-er fails.

mf

Love nev-er

D 31 32 33 **E** *Tenor solo*
mf

Where there are proph-e- cies,

mf Love, love nev-er fails. Love, love nev-er fails. *p* oo

mf Love, love nev-er fails. Love, love nev-er fails. *p* oo

mf Love, love nev-er fails. Love, love nev-er fails. *p* oo

fails, love nev-er fails. Love, love nev-er fails. *p* oo

F 35 36 37

they will fail; where there are tongues, they will cease; where there is knowl- edge, it will

mp oo

mp doo doo doo doo

mp doo doo doo doo

mp doo doo doo doo

39 40 41 **G**

van-ish a - way... Love nev-er fails.

Love, love nev-er fails. Love, love

doo doo doo doo doo Love, love nev - er fails. Love, love nev - er

doo doo doo doo doo Love nev - er fails, love nev-er fails. Love,

doo doo doo doo doo Love, love nev-er fails. Love nev - er fails. Love

43 44 45 **H**

Love nev-er fails.

nev-er fails. Love, love nev-er fails. Love, love

fails. Love nev - er fails. Love nev - er fails. Love, love

love nev-er fails. Love, love nev-er fails. Love,

nev-er fails. Love nev - er fails. Love nev-er fails. Love nev - er fails. Love

47 Love nev-er fails.

48 nev-er fails. Love, love nev-er fails.

49 nev - ver fails. Love, love nev - er fails, nev-er fails,

50 love nev-er fails. Love, love nev-er fails, nev-er fails,

51 nev er fails. Love nev - er, nev-er fails, nev-er fails,

52 nev - er fails. Love nev - er fails.

53 nev - er fails. In the world you will have trib - u - la - tion.

54 nev - er fails. Love nev - er fails.

mp

mp

rit.

mp 55 Take heart, take heart. *f* 58 Now we see through a

mp Take heart, take heart. *f* Now we see through a

mp Take heart. *f* Now we see,

mp Take heart. *f* Now we

rit. A tempo

60 mir - ror, now we see through a 61 mir - ror, but then face to 62 63

mir - ror, now we see, now we see through a mir - ror, but then face to

now we see through a mir - ror, but then

see through a mir - ror, now we see through a mir - ror, but then

64 65 66 rit. **J** A tempo *mp* 68

face, then____ face to face_____ with Love. Love nev-er fails.

face, face to face with Love.____ Love nev-er fails.

8 face to____ face_____ with Love.____ Love nev-er fails.

face to face with Love.____ Love nev-er fails.

rit. A tempo

69 70 71 *mf* 72 73

Now I know in part; but then shall I know____

Love, love nev-er fails. oo____ oh____ ah____

Love, love nev-er fails. oo____ oh____ ah____

Love, love nev-er fails. oo____ oh____ ah____

Love, love nev-er fails. oo____ oh____ ah____

K

74 ful - ly, ev - en as I have been ful - ly known, I have been ful - ly

76 oh I have been ful - ly known, I have been ful - ly

77 *f* oh I have been ful - ly known, I have been ful - ly

78 *ff* known, ful - ly known, ful - ly known, ful - ly known,

79 *ff* known, ful - ly known, ful - ly known, ful - ly known,

80 *ff* known, ful - ly known, ful - ly known, ful - ly known,

81 *ff* known, ful - ly known, ful - ly known, ful - ly known,

82 *ff* known, ful - ly known, ful - ly known, ful - ly known,

rit.

L $\text{♩} = 63$ *mf*

83 84 85 87

Faith, hope, and love a - bid; but the

mf *mf*

ful - ly known, ful - ly known. Faith, hope, and love a - bid;

mf *mf*

ful - ly known, ful - ly known. Faith, hope, and love a - bid;

mf *mf*

ful - ly known. Faith, hope, and love a - bid;

rit. $\text{♩} = 63$

88 89 90 91 92 rit.

great-est of these is love. Faith, hope, and love a - bid; but the great-est of these is

great-est of these is love. Faith, hope, and love a - bid; great-est of these is

great-est of these is love. Faith, hope, and love a - bid; great-est of these is

great-est of these is love. Faith, hope, and love a - bid; great-est of these is

rit.

a tempo

M

love.

93 95 96 97 *mp*

Love, love nev - er fails. Love, love

Love, love nev - er fails. Love, love

Love, love nev - er fails. Love, love

Love, love nev - er fails. Love, love

a tempo

98 99 100 *p* 101 *rit.*

nev - er fails. Love, love nev - er fails.

nev - er fails. Love, love nev - er fails.

nev - er fails. Love, love nev - er fails.

nev - er fails. Love, love nev - er fails.

nev - er fails. Love, love nev - er fails.

rit.



Crazy Twila. That's who she was. She was the third of four children, four years older than me. She was diagnosed with ADHD, and she lived up to that diagnosis. She was high energy. She was intense. She was gullible. She worked crazy hard. She excelled at cooking. She enjoyed making things beautiful. She longed to be wealthy, but never was. She craved acceptance but rarely fit in.

She was missing an important thing—unconditional love. Sure, she had people in her life who truly loved her, but she seemed to have a huge void that couldn't be filled by her few truly loyal friends. She never fit into the church community where she grew up. She couldn't understand why she had to do so many things that seemed unimportant in order to please her family and church community. Her questions and lack of compliance put her at odds with many people, and she felt rejected and judged by her family and community. She craved love, and she journeyed away from God looking for love in all the wrong places.

Eventually she returned to following the Lord, but she found herself in a faith community that seemed to "love" her most when she sacrificed the most for them. And she sacrificed and worked for the church and gave money she couldn't afford to give, but unconditional love still eluded her.

In the last several years of her life, however, she found a community of women who loved her unconditionally. Through words and actions and prayer and tough love, they showed her the love of Christ in a way that she could understand. Her life wasn't perfect, but love was doing its good work in her. We saw a calmer Twila as she was mentored in that lifegiving atmosphere.

In the last few months of her battle with ovarian cancer, she left Oklahoma where she had been living and moved back to her childhood home with our parents. She may not have felt it when she was growing up, but she knew that she would be loved there. And she was. After she died, the community where she grew up gave her a profound gift of love by allowing her body to be buried in the graveyard of her forefathers beside her older sister. She wandered far, but she came home to the One Who loved her and fully knew her all along.

Lyle Stutzman