

# I Wish I Knew How It Would Feel To Be Free

Words by Billy Taylor & Dick Dallas

Music by Billy Taylor

♩ = 120

F<sup>11</sup>

B<sup>b</sup>

D<sup>7</sup>/F<sup>#</sup>

Gm

B<sup>b</sup>/F

E<sup>b</sup>

E<sup>b</sup>/F

B<sup>b</sup>

Chord diagrams for the first system: F<sup>11</sup>, B<sup>b</sup>, D<sup>7</sup>/F<sup>#</sup>, Gm (3fr), B<sup>b</sup>/F, E<sup>b</sup> (6fr), E<sup>b</sup>/F (8fr), B<sup>b</sup> (6fr). The piano accompaniment is in 4/4 time, starting with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic.

E<sup>b</sup>

B<sup>b</sup>/D

B<sup>b</sup>6

F/A

B<sup>b</sup>

F/C

C<sup>7</sup>

F<sup>7</sup>

Chord diagrams for the second system: E<sup>b</sup> (6fr), B<sup>b</sup>/D (4fr), B<sup>b</sup>6, F/A, B<sup>b</sup>, F/C, C<sup>7</sup>, F<sup>7</sup>. The piano accompaniment continues with the same 4/4 time signature.

B<sup>b</sup>

D<sup>7</sup>

Gm

B<sup>b</sup>/F

E<sup>b</sup>

E<sup>b</sup>/F

B<sup>b</sup>

E<sup>b</sup>dim

Chord diagrams for the third system: B<sup>b</sup>, D<sup>7</sup>, Gm (3fr), B<sup>b</sup>/F, E<sup>b</sup> (6fr), E<sup>b</sup>/F (8fr), B<sup>b</sup> (6fr), E<sup>b</sup>dim. The piano accompaniment continues with the same 4/4 time signature.

B<sup>b</sup>/F

D<sup>7</sup>/F<sup>#</sup>

G

E<sup>b</sup>dim

B<sup>b</sup>/F

F<sup>7</sup>sus<sup>4</sup>

B<sup>b</sup>

Chord diagrams for the fourth system: B<sup>b</sup>/F, D<sup>7</sup>/F<sup>#</sup>, G, E<sup>b</sup>dim, B<sup>b</sup>/F, F<sup>7</sup>sus<sup>4</sup>, B<sup>b</sup>. The piano accompaniment concludes with a fermata over the final chord. A first ending bracket labeled 'I' is shown at the end of the system.

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B<sup>b</sup> D<sup>7</sup>/F<sup>#</sup> Gm B<sup>b</sup>7/F E<sup>b</sup>

wish I knew how it would feel to be free..

B<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup>/D B<sup>b</sup>

I wish I could break all the chains.

F C<sup>7</sup> F B<sup>b</sup> D<sup>7</sup>

hold - ing me. I wish I could say

Gm      B<sup>b</sup>7      E<sup>b</sup>      E<sup>b</sup>/F      B<sup>b</sup>      Edim

all the things \_\_\_\_\_ that I should say, say 'em loud, -

B<sup>b</sup>/F      D<sup>7</sup>/F<sup>#</sup>      Gm      B<sup>b</sup>/F      E<sup>b</sup>/F

\_\_\_\_\_ say 'em \_\_\_\_\_ clear, for the whole \_\_\_\_\_ round \_\_\_\_\_ world \_\_\_\_\_ to hear. -

B<sup>b</sup>      D<sup>7</sup>      Gm

I wish I could share \_\_\_\_\_ all the

love\_\_\_\_\_ that's in my heart. Re - move all the bars -

\_\_\_\_\_ that keep\_\_\_\_\_ us a - part.\_\_\_\_\_ I \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ wish\_\_\_\_\_ you could know\_\_\_\_\_ what it means\_\_\_\_\_ to be me, -

B<sup>b</sup> Em<sup>7b5</sup> B<sup>b</sup>/F D<sup>7</sup>/F<sup>#</sup> Gm<sup>7</sup> Em<sup>7b5</sup>

then you'd see \_\_\_\_\_ and ag - ree \_\_\_\_\_ that ev - 'ry man \_\_\_\_\_

B<sup>b</sup>/F E<sup>b</sup>/F B<sup>b</sup> D<sup>7</sup> Gm B<sup>b</sup>7

should be free. \_\_\_\_\_ I wish I could \_\_\_\_\_ give all I'm

E<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>/F B<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup>

long - in' to give. \_\_\_\_\_ I wish \_\_\_\_\_ I \_\_\_\_\_ could live \_\_\_\_\_ like I'm

F C7 F7 B<sup>b</sup> D7/F<sup>#</sup> Gm B<sup>b</sup>/F

long - ing to live... I wish I could do all the

E<sup>b</sup> E<sup>b</sup>/F B<sup>b</sup> Edim B<sup>b</sup>/F D7/F<sup>#</sup> Gm Em<sup>7b5</sup>

things that I can do... Though I'm way o - ver - due I'd be

B<sup>b</sup>/F E<sup>b</sup>/F B<sup>b</sup> D7 Gm B<sup>b</sup>7

start - in' a - new... Well I wish I could be like a

bird in the sky. How sweet it would be

if I found I could fly. Oh I'd soar to the sun

*8va*

and look down at the sea. Then I'd sing 'cause I know

Gm Em7b5 Bb/F D7/F# Gm Em7b5 Bb/F D7/F#

— yeah, and I sing 'cause I know, yeah! And I'd sing 'cause I know,

Gm Em7b5 Bb/F D7/F# Gm Em7b5

I know how it feels, oh I know how it

Bb/F D7/F# Gm Em7b5 Bb/F D7/F# Gm Em7b5

feels to be free. Yeah I know how it feels, yes I

*Repeat ad lib. to fade*