



FREE 'N EASY

Words

Eben E. Rexford
(1846-1916)
and
Joe Liles (1930 -)

Music

H.P.Danks (1834-1903)
and
Joe Liles

Arrangement

Joe Liles

**SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF
BARBER SHOP QUARTET SINGING IN AMERICA INC.**

6315 Third Avenue, Kenosha, WI 53143-5199 • 800-876-SING • www.spebsqsa.org

**SILVER THREADS AMONG
THE GOLD**

(1873)

Verse

Tenor Lead

1 2

Twi - light time is steal - ing. Years go swift - ly by.

Bari Bass

3 4

Sil - ver hair re - veal - ing end of life draws nigh.

5 6

Yet be - fore my dim - ming eyes blooms a rose of May.

© 1996 by SPEBSQSA, INC.

Free 'n' Easy publications may be copied free of charge.

All other rights reserved, including, but not limited to, sales, recordings, and performance licenses.

ASCAP

Silver Threads Among The Gold

7
8

Brings the heart to re - al - ize what I want to say. _____

8

8

Chorus

9
8

10

11

Dar - ling, I am grow - ing old. _____ Sil - ver threads a - mong the

8

12
8

13

14

gold. _____ Shine up - on my brow to - day. _____

8

15
8

16

17

a - way. _____ But, my dar - ling, you will

8

a - way.

18
8

19

20

be, will be al - ways young and fair to me. _____ me, to me.

8

21: Yes! My dar - ling, you will be _____ 22: _____ 23: al - ways young and fair to

Reprise

24: me. _____ 25: But, my dar - ling, you will be, 26: will be _____

27: al - ways young and fair to me. _____ 28: to me. 29: Yes! My dar - ling, you will

30: be _____ 31: al - ways young and fair to me. _____ 32: so fair to me.

Performance Notes

Hart Pease Danks of New Haven, Connecticut was already an experienced composer of sacred songs, a singer and conductor, when he spotted a poem in a Wisconsin farm journal edited by Eben Rexford, an authority on gardening and floriculture. Rexford was in the habit of writing poems as space fillers in his magazine. He sold a group of poems to Danks, and one of them was "Silver Threads Among The Gold." The rest, as they say, is history. The song sold over two million copies in the 19th century alone.

Joe Liles, a Texan, a barbershop singer and writer of songs in several styles, felt that such a beautiful chorus needed an appropriate verse. He composed both words and music.

Danks composed over 1,200 songs but died alone and in poverty in Philadelphia. He and Rexford are remembered today only by this song. Joe Liles lives in Kenosha, Wisconsin and is an active member of SPEBSQSA.