

DEAR HEARTS AND GENTLE PEOPLE

**I love those dear hearts and gen-tle peo-ple
Who live in my home-town,**

**Be-cause those dear hearts and gen-tle peo-ple
Will nev-er ev-er let you down.**

**They read the Good Book from "Fri" til Mon-day
That's how the week-end goes.**

**I've got a dream house I'll build there one day
With pick-et fence and ram-bling rose.**

**I feel so we-come each time that I re-turn
That my hap-py heart keeps laugh-ing like a clown.**

**I love the dear hearts and gen-tle peo-ple
Who live and love in my home-town.**



America's beloved ballad writer Stephen Foster died alone and in poverty, having squandered his magnificent talent (and such money as he made from it) on drink. In the jacket pocket of his shabby suit was found a scrap of paper with the phrase "Dear hearts and gentle people," perhaps the beginning of another imperishable Foster song like "Beautiful Dreamer" or "My Old Kentucky

Home." The words appealed to Bob Hilliard so much when he heard of them in 1949 that he continued the lyrics, and Sammy Fain, who had already won Academy Awards for such tunes as "Love Is a Many-Splendored Thing" and "Secret Love," furnished the music for this song. Dinah Shore and Bing Crosby vied for top honors among a long list of successful recording artists.

Words by Bob Hilliard

Music by Sammy Fain

Dear hearts & gentle people

Moderately

The musical score is written for piano and voice. It consists of four systems of music. Each system has a treble and bass staff for the piano accompaniment and a single staff for the voice. The piano part includes chord diagrams for G, G7, C, D7, Bbdim, and Cm6. The lyrics are written below the voice staff.

System 1: *I love those*
(They read the)

System 2: dear Good hearts Book and from gen "Fri." tle 'til peo - ple Mon - day

System 3: who live in the my home - town, be - cause those
that's how the week - end goes. I've got a

System 4: dear dream hearts house and I'll gen - tle there peo - ple day will
one day with

nev - er ev - er let you down. They read the rose.

pick - et fence and ram - bling

(tacet)

I feel so wel - come each time that I re - turn that my

G7 (tacet) C G

hap - py heart keeps laugh - ing like a clown. I love the

Em Em/maj7 Em7 Em6 D A7 D7 (tacet)

dear hearts and gen - tle peo - ple who

G G7 C Cm6

live and love in my home - town.

G Em7 C D7 G D7 G7 Cm6 G6add9 **ff**