

A Life I Choose

For voice and piano

Music and Lyrics

by Gloria Chu

A Life I Choose

Gloria Chu

I use to wonder who I'd be,
staring far across the sea.
Watching waves that cut so deep,
feeling pain I cannot keep.

But there's a door I've never tried,
a place where dreams reside.
Every dream I can't deny,
every hope I let now fly.

I'm ready for a life that's true,
seeing all that I can do.
No more hiding what I knew,
it's time to see with clear view.

I don't know where I will go,
I won't stay the same, I just know.
Chasing visions as they flow,
every fear I'll let it go.

I'm ready for a life I choose.

I use to follow painted lines,
feeling where the pathways wind.
Watching every shadow move,
finding ways my heart could prove.

A road ahead I've yet to find,
Where joy and courage are aligned.
Every beat that drives me on,
every shadow now is gone.

I'm ready for a life that's true,
seeing all that I can do.
No more hiding what I knew,
it's time to see with clear view.

I don't know where I will go,
I won't stay the same, I just know.
Chasing visions as they flow,
every fear I'll let it go.

I'm ready for a life I choose.

I face the world with open eyes,
nothing left but to arise.
Break through walls and claim my place,
facing life with fearless grace.

I break the chain, I am reborn,
set me free, my soul's transformed.
Every fire I feel inside,
I blaze a trail I cannot hide.

I'm ready for a life's that's true,
seeing all that I can do.
No more hiding what I knew,
it's time to see with clear view.

I don't know where I will go,
I won't stay the same, I just know.
Chasing visions as they flow,
every fear, I'll let it go.

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$\text{♩} = 72-76$
Reflective

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). It consists of four systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The tempo is marked as 72-76 beats per minute and the mood is 'Reflective'. The dynamics range from *mp* (mezzo-piano) to *p* (piano). The lyrics are: 'I use to wonder who I'd be, star-ing far a-cross the sea. Watching waves that cut so deep, feel-ing pain I can - not keep. But there's a door I've nev - er tried, a place where dreams re-side. Ev - ry dream I can't de - ny, ev - ry hope I let now fly.'

mp
I use to wonder who I'd be,

4
star-ing far a-cross the sea. Watching waves that cut so deep,

6
feel-ing pain I can - not keep. But there's a door I've nev - er tried, a

8
place where dreams re-side. Ev - ry dream I can't de - ny, ev - ry hope I let now fly.

11

mf

I'm read-y for a life that's true, — see-ing all that I can do. — No more hid-ding

mp

14

f

what I knew, it's time to see with clear view. I don't know where

16

I will go, I won't stay the same, I just know. — Chasing visions as they flow, — ev-ry

19

mp

fear I'll let it go. — I'm ready for a life I choose.

p

23 *mp*

I use to fol-low paint - ed lines,

p

25

feel-ing where the path-ways wind. Watch-ing ev - ry shad - ow move,

27

find-ing ways my heart could prove. A road a-head I've yet to find, where

29

joy and cour-age are aligned. Ev-ry beat that drives me on, ev-ry shad-ow now is gone.

32

mf

I'm read-y for a life that's true, — see-ing all that I can do. — No more hid-ding

mp

35

f

what I knew, it's time to see with clear view. I don't know where

37

I will go, I won't stay the same, I just know. — Chasing vi-sions

39

as they flow, — ev-ry fear I'll let it go. —

42 *mf* *mf*

I'm ready for a life I choose. I face the world with open eyes,

45

noth-ing left but to a-rise. Break through walls and claim my place, fac-ing life with fear-less grace.

48 *mf* *f*

I break the chain, I am re-born, set me free, my soul's trans-formed. Ev-ry

50 *f*

fire I feel in-side, I blaze a trail I can-not hide. I'm ready for a

53

lifethat'strue, see-ingallthat I can do. Nomorehid-dingwhat I knew, it'stime to

mp

56

see withclear view. I don't know where Iwillgo, Iwon'tstaythesame,

ff

59

Ijustknow. Chas-ingvi-sions astheyflow, ev-ry fear, I'lllet it go.

63

I'mread-y for a life I choose.

mp, *ff ad lib.*

mf *f*