

PARTS: **Soprano** **Alto** **Tenor** **Bass** All

KEY: **bold** = first beat of bar ^ = rest Underline = triplet backing vocal = [text]

207 - When You Were Sweet Sixteen

INTRO

Verse 1

When **first** I saw the love-light in your **eye**
And **heard** your voice, like sweetest melo-**dy**
Speak **words** of love to my enraptured **soul**
The **world** had naught but joy in store for **me**

E'en **though** we're drifting down life's stream
a-**part**

Your **face** I still can see in dream's do-**main**
I **know** that it would ease my breaking **heart**
To **hold** you in my arms just once
a-**gain**. (pause)

Chorus

I **love** you as I never loved be-**fore**
Since **first** I saw you on the village **green**
Come **to** me, or my dream of love is o'er
I **love** you as I loved you (pause)
(triplet) When-you-were **sweet**
(triplet) When-you-were sweet sixteen.

INSTRUMENTAL over chorus

Verse 2

Last **night** I dreamt I held your hand in **mine**
And **once** a-gain you were my happy **bride**
I **kissed** you as I did in Auld Lang **Syne**
As **to** the church we wandered side by **side**

The **love** I bear for you can never **die**
With-**out** you, I had rather not been **born**
And **ev-en** though we never meet a-**gain**
I **love** you as the sunshine loves the **morn**
(pause)

Chorus

I **love** you as I never loved be-**fore**
Since **first** I saw you on the village **green**
Come **to** me, or my dream of love is o'er
I **love** you as I loved you (pause)
(triplet) When-you-were **sweet**
(triplet) When-you-were sweet sixteen.

*Words and music written by James Thornton in 1898.
The hugely popular cover recordings by Perry Como
(1947) and The Fureys (1981) has helped to keep this
beautiful love song alive in our hearts.*