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## Ex. 6

## Ex. 7 (original arr.)

## Ex. 8 Bill sings

## My Four Freshmen Story

by Gisela Muecke (FFS-Germany)

"Hello, my name is Gisela. I live in Cologne, Germany." In 1959 I was a journalism student (18 years old). I listened to the American Forces Network Radio broadcasts. One afternoon I heard a song called "I Remember April." I was very impressed by the singers...but who are they? I called the disc jockey to find out. He said "These guys are one of the famous groups in the U.S.A." So I asked him to play more Freshmen recordings. The next day I turned on the radio and suddenly the disc jockey announced "The next song is especially going out to Gisela," and he played I Remember You. I was thrilled.

One evening I decided to write a letter to the Freshmen. I addressed it to "Capitol Records, c/o The Four Freshmen, Hollywood CA"....but the letter came back "return to sender." What should I do now? I called the AFN disc jockey again and asked him for the correct address...so once again my letter flew back to the United States of America.

About ten (10) days later, Bill Wagner, the personal manager of the FF, wrote me a letter explaining how the Freshmen were so pleased to hear from me. And, they decided to send me their latest album (FF In Person) as a gift. I was speechless.

And, believe it or not, two weeks later another gladness arrived to me from Bill Wagner. He said that Capitol Records decided to send me The Whole Freshmen Collection and it wouldn't cost me even one cent! When I received them all I was the happiest girl in the world.

Another surprise followed three weeks later. Bill Wagner told me that the Freshmen would begin a "road show" to Germany (Frankfort) and they would be pleased if I could come and hear them in person! First of all, I thought I'm dreaming...a young girl from old Germany meeting four famous singers from America! I was in heaven on earth.

After meeting them and enjoying the live performances, all four Freshmen took me to the railway station. And when we had to say goodbye, they all were singing "I'll Be Seeing You." A lot of people watched it at the station and said to each other "what's going on here?"

As I write these word, I still have tears in my eyes. For me it was the greatest event that ever happened to me in my youth. That was then....but my story doesn't end there.

All these years I have loved the music of the Four Freshmen. A little more than one year ago I suddenly thought to myself - what ever happened to the Four Freshmen? So, after 40 years, I wrote them another letter...Success! After 15 days Ross Barbour wrote me a wonderful letter from Simi Valley, CA. What an amazing surprise. I think Ross Barbour is possessing fantastic intelligence.

And now, I say "Hi" to the young Four Freshmen....perhaps I will hear from them also.