

THEY CANNOT ERASE US

Words by
Joseph A Shapiro

*Commissioned by Joseph A Shapiro
In Honor Of Tristan Miedema and the members of TRANScendent,
whose ideas and courage inspired these words and this music.*

Music by
Pax Ressler

I learned my truth from deep within
The voice came from my soul
The path ahead was so unclear
And out of my control

But the gift of understanding
Was growing in my heart
No one can take it away from me
I knew that from the start

No, they cannot erase us!
No matter how they try
Our truth is our power
To deny us is a lie

Our pronouns are a rainbow
And every gender real
We're joining hands together
Our prism, love revealed

Transition is a promise
To ourselves, we'll be true

And love and strength will light our way
We blaze this trail for you

No, they cannot erase us!
No matter how they try
Our truth is our power
'Cause history does not lie

Transition is a promise
These words we sing are true
Yes, love and strength will light our way
We blaze this trail for you

No, they cannot erase us!
No matter how they try
Our truth is our power
We cannot be denied

No, they cannot erase us!
No, they cannot erase us!
No, they cannot erase us!
No, they cannot erase us!

Boldly ♩ = 76

The musical score is written for a vocal quartet and a band. The vocal parts (Tenor I, Tenor II, Baritone, and Bass) are in 4/4 time. The instrumental parts (Piano, Electric Bass, and Drum Set) are also in 4/4 time. The score includes dynamic markings such as *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *f* (forte). The lyrics are written below the vocal staves, and the instrumental parts are written below the vocal staves. The score is in 4/4 time and includes a tempo marking of **Boldly** ♩ = 76.

Tenor I
Tenor II
Baritone
Bass
Piano
Electric Bass
Drum Set

mf *f* *mf* *f*

Oh, woah — oh, oh, — oh, — oh, —

Oh, woah — oh, oh, — oh, — oh, —

f *mf*

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