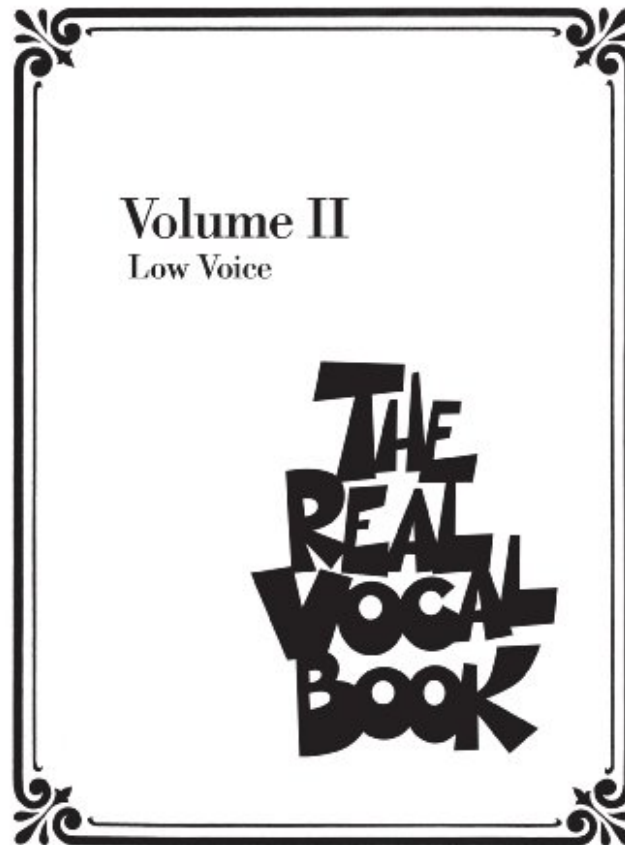


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Hal Leonard Corporation : The Real Vocal Book - Volume II: Low Voice: 2 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Real Vocal Book - Volume II: Low Voice: 2:

17 of 17 people found the following review helpful. Great Book if Chord Problems Are Fixed - UPDATE: Chords FixedBy PianoJazzManI just sent the following email to Hal Leonard. It applies to the Low Voice books (I don't know if the High Voice books have the same problem):You need to put out a new edition of the Real Vocal Books that fixes the problematic chords that make them tough to use on a gig. Many songs are OK, but some have significant problems.For example, instead of using B7 the book uses Cb7, which makes harmonic sense in a flat key but is much more difficult to read on a gig. Even worse, A7 is written as Bbb7, which is ridiculous. Em is D##m, also ridiculous. The same double-flattening also mars the notation in some of the tunes. It looks like a computer program did these tunes rather than a human being.Most egregious of all, at least one tune has notes written in the key of Eb while the chords are in the key of E. Another tune is in F but fails to place a Bb in the key signature. Wasn't this book proofread?You really need to go back and redo Volumes 1 and 2 of the Real Vocal Books to make them more user friendly.And you

owe a refund to everyone who bought them. Or at least offer a significant discount for the corrected edition when it comes out - hopefully soon. At the very least, please don't repeat these mistakes when you put out Volume 3. I'm looking forward to buying it. But I'm not looking forward to having to go through it with a pen and correct all of the difficult or wrong chords as I've had to do with volumes 1 and 2. Other than these significant problems, these books are valuable resources for gigging jazz musicians who want to provide vocals.-----UPDATE, here's Hal Leonard's response (a month later): Thank you for your email. We apologize for the delayed response and any errors in the book. Unfortunately, we cannot give you a refund for the book, however if you would like to give us specific errors (song titles, measure numbers, etc.), we will pass your information on to our editorial department for corrections on future printings. Sincerely, Hal Leonard Product Support

And here's my response to Hal Leonard: Thanks for the apology. It's too bad you won't provide a refund for the book or a discount to buyers for the corrected version (whenever that's provided). But the most important thing is that you fix the errors in the book and issue an update ASAP so that more people aren't ripped off. Unfortunately, I don't have time to go through the books listing all of the errors by measure numbers, in effect doing the job your editorial department should have done in the first place. But here are a few to get you started:

- 1) Page 300 of Real Vocal Book Volume 1 for Low Voice, "There's a Small Hotel" - the notes and key signature are in Eb Major, but the chords are in E Major. Playing your version makes this lovely tune sound like atonal Schoenberg.
- 2) Page 286 of Real Vocal Book Volume 1 for Low Voice, "The Surrey With the Fringe on Top" - the notes/key signature are in F Major, but the chords are in C Major.
- 3) Page 320 of Real Vocal Book Volume 2 for Low Voice, "That Old Black Magic" - the notes/key signature are in C Major, but the chords are in Bb Major.
- 4) Page 316 of Real Vocal Book Volume 2 for Low Voice, "That Old Feeling" - the notes/key signature are in Bb Major, but the chords are in C Major.
- 5) Page 42 of Real Vocal Book Volume 2 for Low Voice, "Born to Be Blue" - contains many needlessly complicated chords that could be made much simpler to read. For example, measure two has the chord Ebb7b5. That is the same chord as D7b5. Why not make it D7b5, which is much easier to read? Similar problems occur throughout this tune: Bbb-7 should simply be A-7. FbMaj7 should be EMaj7. Cb7 should be B7. AbbMaj7 should be GMaj7, etc. Many other tunes contain this problem of needlessly complicated chord charts. Unfortunately, it forces me to have to go through and write in the simpler version of the chords next to the complicated ones, which makes the tunes look even more cluttered.

Other than these significant problems, the vocal series is a real boon to the gigging jazz musician who wants to provide vocals. I hope you can fix the problems soon and issue new books. At the very least I hope you don't repeat the mistakes in Vocal Book Volume 3, which says you're planning to release in January.-----FINAL UPDATE: March 30, 2013 Good news. It took more than a year since I first complained, but I just received the corrected version of this book. They not only fixed the tunes with incorrect chords but they also simplified the needlessly complicated double-flat and double-sharp chords. I can now wholeheartedly recommend this book. Unfortunately, I received notice from that Hal Leonard has decided not to put out a Volume III. That's unfortunate, as there is a need for more vocal versions of these jazz classics.

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Songs are missing their lead-in verse
 By Eliza B
 The range is G (below middle C) to C (one octave above middle C), mostly in the B to B range. (I wish books would state their range instead of just saying "high" or "low"!)

Nice selection, useful spiral binding, easy to read font BUT the songs are missing their verse! "I Left My Heart in San Francisco" for example starts with those words, totally missing the part about "the loveliness of Paris" etc. I don't know that I can use the book with it missing the first third of songs that sets up for the chorus. As a vocalist I think the verse can be important to the wholeness of the song; perhaps that is less true for instrumentalists? I'm tempted to return this for one of the fakebooks that gives the whole of songs. If you only want the chorus and not the whole song, this book will do.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great for Gigs
 By Elizabeth Ladd
 This is a phenomenal book that makes any alto jazz vocalists life a lot easier. The charts are, for the most part, correct and well edited (which is not always the case with fake books). The keys are exactly where I want them. The repertoire is great! I am so glad that I bit the bullet and bought these. It makes it so much easier to show up to a gig with a book that is printed, well edited, and in the best keys for your voice! If you are a starting vocalist looking to enter the jazz realm, you should buy all of the books in this line and start learning them!

(Fake Book). A new low voice edition of nearly 300 songs picked especially for vocalists! Includes: Ain't Misbehavin' * All the Way * Bali Ha'i * Be Careful, It's My Heart * Bein' Green * Besame Mucho * Blackbird * Caravan * Cheek to Cheek * Crazy * East of the Sun (And West of the Moon) * Everybody Loves Somebody * Falling in Love Again (Can't Help It) * From This Moment On * The Glory of Love * A Good Man Is Hard to Find * Hard Hearted Hannah (The Vamp of Savannah) * How Deep Is the Ocean (How High Is the Sky) * I Left My Heart in San Francisco * I'll Be Around * I'll Take Romance * I've Got My Love to Keep Me Warm * I've Got You Under My Skin * It's You or No One * Java Jive * Just Squeeze Me (But Don't Tease Me) * The Lady Is a Tramp * Learnin' the Blues * Lollipops and Roses * Lost in the Stars * L-O-V-E * Makin' Whoopee! * Mona Lisa * Moonlight in Vermont * More (Ti Guardero Nel Cuore) * My Blue Heaven * My Heart Stood Still * A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square * On the Street Where You Live * Prelude to a Kiss * Pure Imagination * Speak Low * Stormy Weather (Keeps Rainin' All the Time) * Strangers in the Night * That Old Black Magic * Time After Time * Unforgettable * The Very Thought of

You * What a Wonderful World * Witchcraft * You Are Beautiful * and more.

About the AuthorFounded in 1947, Hal Leonard Corporation has become the worlds largest print music publisher, representing some of the greatest songwriters and artists of all time. We are proud to publish titles of interest to all musicians as well as music lovers, from songbooks and instructional titles to artist biographies and instrument price guides to books about the music industry and all the performing arts.