

# DON'T BUY THIS BOOK!!!!

*unless....*

...this little exercise works for you. Teaching yourself a physical skill with only a printed text for a guide is no slam-dunk, *even when the text is reinforced with a CD*, as this one is. Not everyone can succeed, and certainly not in every field. This book *may or may not* be right for you, and therefore I've provided a pre-purchase test which will help you to decide whether to invest in it or not.

Start by singing the first four lines of the Star-Spangled Banner:

**Oh, say can you see  
By the dawn's early light  
What so proudly we hailed  
At the twilight's last gleaming**

Sing strongly, as you would to an audience, starting high enough that the top notes (on the words "by" and "proudly") *are just a little challenging*. When you're done, take a minute to evaluate your performance:

- How *even* was your tone?
- How *accurate* was your pitch?
- How *comfortable* were the highest and lowest notes?
- How *expressively* did you sing?

Now, starting on the same note, sing the melody again, but this time, sing *without words*.

**What? WITHOUT WORDS???!**

Instead of words, make up nonsense syllables. Start each syllable with a "d" or a "b", like this:

**Doo bah dah dee doo dah  
Dee doo dah dee dah doo  
*etc.***

*...but rather than reading the ones in the orange oval, make up your own sounds as you sing*. Again, be sure to "*perform*" the song the way you would to an audience — not the "wimpy" way most of us sing it when we're in a crowd.

Are you done? Now compare your second, wordless, performance to your first one.

- Was your tone *more even*?
- Was your pitch *more accurate*?
- Were the high and low notes *more comfortable*?
- Was your singing *more expressive*?

If you answered "*yes*" to any of these,

*then....*

**BUY THIS BOOK RIGHT NOW !!!!**

But if you felt *no difference* between the two performances, or if the second version was *more difficult to accomplish*, even on a second or third try, then you probably shouldn't invest in it. In order to benefit from its ideas and exercises, you must be able to divorce yourself *from yourself* in a way that appears to be difficult for you. However, the guidance of a good teacher or coach, particularly one who owns this book, would be quite beneficial.