

# The Note Reader

## Sharing Your Music

*by Mark Gaare, originally from The Note Reader, published by MG MUSIC Company, Mesa, AZ, July 1991.*

Writing music is a form of self-expression that can be a highly gratifying experience for the individual. Publishing that music is the best way to share that enjoyment and emotion with others. You may be thinking: "But I don't want my song to be easily reproduced and copied without compensation to me." To hide in fear of this, remaining unpublished, is a shame. It doesn't benefit anyone to labor over a song without recognition or compensation. Nor will it bestow enjoyment on the ears of your audience: the listening public. *Music is only good if it is shared.* Therefore, we must all embrace the Copyright Laws of the United States and the shelter that they provide. These laws were made to protect the authors of music, text, and art, while still allowing them to exchange and distribute their works. Accept and trust these laws to uphold your creative rights.

For more information on copyrights, contact the U.S. Copyright Office, Library of Congress, Washington D.C. <https://www.copyright.gov/>