

Get Together

(The Youngbloods)

[Intro]

[Verse 1]

Love is but a song we sing
Fear's the way we die
You can make the mountains ring
Or make the angels cry
Though the bird is on the wing
And you may not know why

[Chorus]

Come on people now
Smile on your brother
Everybody get together
Try to love one another right now

[Verse 2]

Some may come and some may go
We will surely pass
When the one that left us here
Returns for us at last
We are but a moment's sunlight
Fading in the grass

[Chorus]

Come on people now
Smile on your brother
Everybody get together
Try to love one another
Right now

Come on people now
Smile on your brother
Everybody get together
Try to love one another
Right now

[Bridge]

[Chorus]

Come on people now
Smile on your brother
Everybody get together
Try to love one another
Right now

[Intro]

[Verse 3]

If you hear the song I sing
You will understand (listen!)
You hold the key to love and fear
All in your trembling hand
Just one key unlocks them both
It's there at your command

[Chorus]

Come on people now
Smile on your brother
Everybody get together
Try to love one another
Right now

Come on people now
Smile on your brother
Everybody get together
Try to love one another
Right now

(I said) Come on people now
Smile on your brother
Everybody get together
Try to love one another
Right now
Right now
Right now

"Get Together", also known as "Let's Get Together", is a song written in the mid-1960s by American singer-songwriter Chet Powers, also known as Dino Valenti.

The song is an appeal for peace and brotherhood, presenting the polarity of love versus fear, and the choice to be made between them. It is best remembered for the impassioned plea in the lines of its refrain, which is repeated several times in succession to bring the song to its conclusion.

The song was originally recorded as "Let's Get Together" by the Kingston Trio in a live performance in March 1964 that was released on June 1, 1964, on their album *Back in Town*. While it was not released as a single, this version was the first to bring the song to the attention of the general public. The Kingston Trio often performed it live.

A pre-Byrds David Crosby recorded "Get Together" around the same time as the Trio, but possibly a few weeks later, since the band arrangement includes the riff from the Beatles' version of "Twist and Shout", released earlier in Britain but not in the United States until April. Crosby's version, possibly the first studio recording and pre-dating release of the Trio's version, appeared many years later on the *Preflyte* album.

A version of the song first broke into the top forty in 1965, when We Five, produced by Kingston Trio manager Frank Werber, released "Let's Get Together" as the follow-up to their top ten hit "You Were on My Mind". While it did not achieve the same level of success as the other, "Let's Get Together" provided the group with a second top 40 hit on the *Billboard Hot 100* when it peaked at number 31. It would be their last hit record.

"Let's Get Together" was the third song on side 2 of the Jefferson Airplane's first album, *Jefferson Airplane Takes Off*, released in August 1966. As Tim Jurgens said in his review of the album in the January 1967 issue of *Crawdaddy*, "Jefferson Airplane Takes Off is the most important album of American rock issued this year (1966); it is the first LP to come out of the new San Francisco music scene..". He called "Let's Get Together" a "most sensitive, hopeful and contemporary ballad", and wondered why it isn't sung in church. However, the song wasn't released as a single, although the album did make the top 100 of 1966, as number 97.

In 1967, the Youngbloods released their version of the song under the title "Get Together". It became a minor *Hot 100* hit for them, peaking at number 62 and reaching 37 on the US adult contemporary chart. However, renewed interest in the Youngbloods' version came when it was used in a radio public service announcement as a call for brotherhood by the National Conference of Christians and Jews. The Youngbloods' version, the most-remembered today, was re-released in 1969, peaking at number 5 on the *Billboard Hot 100*.