You Can’t Stop the Beat
(from “Hairspray”)
Words and music by Marc Shaiman and Scott Michael Wittman

V1: You can’t stop an avalanche
As it races down the hill.
You can try to stop the seasons, girl,
But you know you never will.

And you can try to stop my dancin’ feel,
But I just cannot stand still.
‘Cause the world keeps spinning ‘round and ‘round
And my heart’s keeping time to the speed of sound.
I was lost ‘til I heard the drums then I found my way.
‘Cause you can’t stop the beat!

Chorus 1: Ever since this old world began,
A woman found out if she shook it,
She could shake up a man.
And so I’m gonna shake and shimmy it the best that I can to-day.

‘Cause you can’t stop the motion of the ocean or the sun in the sky.
You can wonder if you wanna, but I never ask why.
And if you try to hold me down, I’m gonna spit in your eye and say
That you can’t stop the beat!

V2: You can’t stop a river as it rushes to the sea.
You can try and stop the hands of time,
But you know it just can’t be.

And if they try to stop us, Seaweed,
I’ll call the N double A C P!
‘Cause the world keeps spinning ‘round and ‘round
And my heart’s keeping time to the speed of sound
I was lost till I heard the drums, then found my way.
‘Cause you can’t stop the beat!
Chorus 2: Ever since we first saw the light,
A man and woman liked to shake it on a Saturday night.
And so I’m gonna shake and shimmy it with all of my might today.

‘Cause you can’t stop the motion of the ocean
or the rain from above.
You can try to stop the paradise we’re dreaming of.
But you cannot stop the rhythm of two hearts in love to stay.
‘Cause you can’t stop the beat!

V3: You can’t stop my happiness,
‘Cause I like the way I am.
And you just can’t stop my knife and fork,
When I see a Christmas ham.

So if you don’t like the way I look, well,
I just don’t give a damn!
‘Cause the world keeps spinning ‘round and ‘round,
And my heart’s keeping time to the speed of sound.
I was lost till I heard the drums, then I found my way.
‘Cause you can’t stop the beat!

Chorus 1: Ever since this old world began,
A woman found out if she shook it,
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And so I’m gonna shake and shimmy it the best that I can to-day.

‘Cause you can’t stop the motion of the ocean or the sun in the sky.
You can wonder if you wanna, but I never ask why.
And if you try to hold me down, I’m gonna spit in your eye and say,
That you can’t stop the beat!
V4: Oh, oh, oh, you can’t stop today
As it comes speeding down the track.
Child, yesterday is history,
And it’s never coming back.

‘Cause tomorrow is a brand new day
And it don’t know white from black.
‘Cause the world keeps spinning ‘round and ‘round,
And my heart’s keeping time to the speed of sound.
I was lost till I heard the drums, then I found my way.
‘Cause you can’t stop the beat!

Chorus 2: Ever since we first saw the light,
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