

# Sitting on Your Talent **PASSION**



**T**here was a man who played the piano in a bar. He was a good piano player. People came just to hear him play. But one night, a patron told him that he didn't wish to hear him just play piano anymore, but wanted him to sing.

The man replied, "I don't sing!"

But the customer was persistent. He told the bartender, "I'm tired of listening to the piano. I want that guy to sing!"

The bartender shouted across the room, "Hey buddy! If you want to get paid, sing a song. The patrons are asking you to sing!"

So he did. He sang a song. A piano player who had never sung in public did so for the very first time. And nobody had

ever heard the song 'Mona, Mona Lisa' the way it was sung that night by Nat King Cole!

He had talent he was sitting on! He may have lived the rest of his life as an unknown piano player in an unknown bar. But because he had to sing, he went on to become one of the best known entertainers in America.

You, too, have skills and abilities. You may not feel that your "talent" is particularly great, but in reality it may be better than you think! And with persistence, skills can be improved. Besides, you may as well have no ability at all if you sit on whatever talent you possess! The better question is not "What ability do I have that is useful?" It is rather "How will I use whatever ability I have?"

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*It is never too late to be what you might have been.*  
– George Eliot