

MRS. MIDDLEMAN'S DESCENT, Chamber Opera by Martin Halpern
(See notes for cast and setting)

(At rise, Mr. and Mrs. Middleman are seated at the eating table, with emptied plates before them.)

Andante grazioso ♩ = 48

Mrs. M

Piano

mf

Such a nice change —

4 *rit.* ♩ = 36

Mrs. M

Pno.

— when you come home for lunch. It's like a week-day was the week-end,

6

Mrs. M

Pno.

ex-cept it's not, so there's still the week-end com-ing.

3

Mr. M ⁸ Well I'm glad to see you're o - kay, hav - ing slept bare - ly a wink

Pno. ⁸

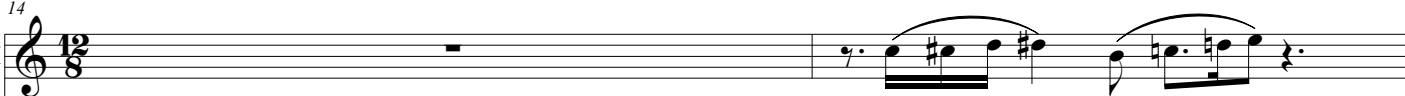
Mr. M ¹⁰ for two nights run - ning. But please, this af - ter - noon,


Pno. ¹⁰

Mr. M ¹² take a good long nap. Three hours min - i - mum.

Pno. ¹²

14

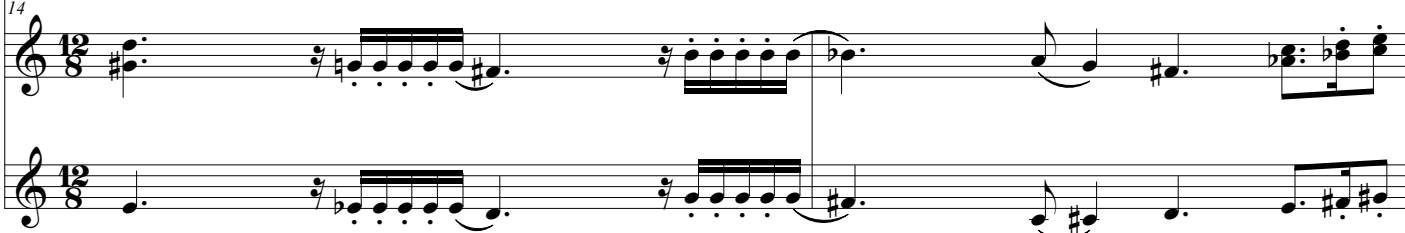
Mrs. M 

Mr. M 

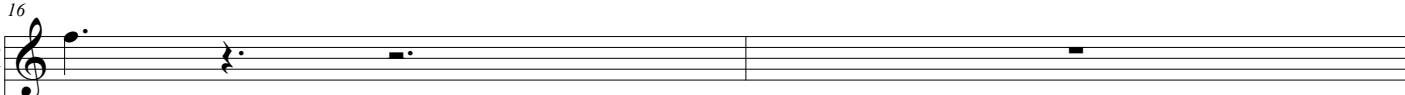
I want you fresh and rest - ed for to-night.


You think to-night may real - ly be...

14

Pno. 

16

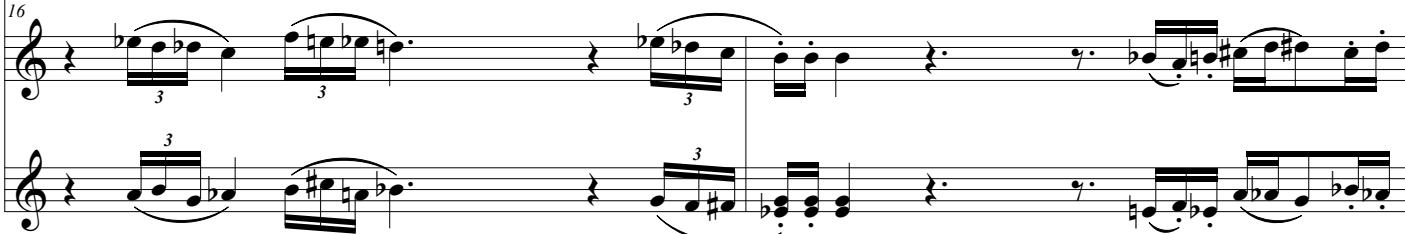
Mrs. M 

Mr. M 


it?

Well when the boss in - vites one to din - ner,

16

Pno. 

18

Mr. M 

and says to bring the mis-sus, some - thing's cook-ing...

18

Pno. 

Mr. M ²⁶ (He kisses her, then quickly rises.)
 be - fore they're hatched. Now back to the of - fice.

Pno. ²⁶ *tr* *mp* ³

Mrs. M ²⁸ Yes, I'll try.

Mr. M ²⁸ Re-mem - ber, — a nap. Three hours min-i-mum.

Pno. ²⁸ *mf* *mp* ³

Mr. M ³⁰ No, don't say try. You can't fall a-sleep by *try-ing*. All you can do

Pno. ³⁰

33

Mr. M

is just re-lax, from head to toe, emp-ty your mind,

Pno.

36

Mr. M

and let your-self sink down, and there, just like that, you've slept.

Pno.

mf ³

3

38

Mrs. M

I know. To you that comes eas-y. But there are nights when I can't just re-lax,

Pno.

3

3

40

Mrs. M

can't emp-ty my mind. Some kind of thoughts keep nag-ging at me,

Pno.

42 (A knocking at the door)

Mrs. M and won't let go. Oh dear, that must be Mis-sus Lea-ry.

Pno. *f*

44 (She quickly takes the lunch plates to the sink.)

Mrs. M I for-got it's rent day. Just a min-ute, Mis-sus Lea-ry!

Manny (Off right) It is-n't Mis-sus Lea-ry,

Pno.

47

Mrs. M Just a min-ute, Man-ny!

Manny it's me, Man-ny!

Mr. M Oh no! The lone-ly soph-o-more up-stairs! Please,

Pno. *mp*

Mr. M *50*
 no yack-ing — to-day. If he needs com-pan-y, send him on down

Pno. *50*

Mr. M *52*
 to yack with Mis-sus Lear - y. She's lone - ly too,

Pno. *52*

Mrs. M *54*
 And mean - er ev-'ry day since then.

Mr. M
 since that truck ran o - ver A-don - is.

Pno. *54*
mf *f* *mp*
 3 3

(Taking her in his arms)

Mr. M ⁵⁶

Yes it's quite a house we live in. Lone-li-ness a-bove, mean-ness be-low.

Pno. ⁵⁶

mf *mp*

Mrs. M ⁵⁹

And us in be-tween.

Mr. M ⁵⁹

And us in-be-tween. Mar-ried five years,

Pno. ⁵⁹

Mrs. M ⁶²

De - spite the sur-round-ings.

Mr. M ⁶²

and do-ing not bad-ly, de-spite the sur-round-ings.

Pno. ⁶²

mf

10

(Kisses him and draws away)

Mrs. M *65* Now go! Back to the of - fice!

Mr. M I'm off! But prom-ise me:

Pno. *65*

Mrs. M *67* I prom-ise. Now go!

Mr. M a nap! Three hours min-imum!

Pno. *67*

Manny *69* (He crosses to the door and opens it.) Oh hi Mis-ter Mid-dle-man. Home on a week - day?

Mr. M What is it you want?

Pno. *69*

Manny ⁷¹ Just to bor - row a va - cuum clean - er, if that's all right.

Mr. M All right,

Pno. ⁷¹ *mp* *mf*

Mrs. M ⁷³ (She crosses off left.)
Hold on, I'll fetch it.

Mr. M if that's *all* you want. Just take it and go.

Pno. ⁷³

Mrs. M ⁷⁵ Here you are. No class-es to-day?

Manny (Taking it)
Thank you.

Mr. M (He quickly exits right.)
Un-der-stand?

Pno. ⁷⁵ *mp*

Manny

78

None worth go-ing to. So I thought I'd kill some time,

Pno.

Mrs. M

80

Good.

Manny

80

if time could on - ly be killed, by tend - ing to my en - vir - on - ment.

Pno.

mf

(Crossing to the table and picking up the newspaper)

Manny

82

Ah, the morn-ing pa - per. Quite a stor - y in here

Pno.

Manny

84

a - bout this wom - an who mur - dered her lov - er. Just bashed in his head with a ham - mer,

Pno.

86

Mrs. M

The things you read in the pa-pers.

Manny

then called the cops to con-fess to them.

Pno.

p

mp

88

Manny

She must - 've had rea-sons. Good ones. But un-less they de-clare her in-sane,

Pno.

mf

90

Mrs. M

Please Man-ny, — don't go on with this.

Manny

she's sure to get the el-ec - tric chair.

Pno.

Mrs. M ⁹² That kind of stor - y up-sets me, and I must - n't be up-set right now.

Pno.

Mrs. M ⁹⁴ My hus-band and I are in-vit-ed to an im-port-ant din-ner to-night,

Pno. *mp*

Mrs. M ⁹⁶ and I've hard-ly slept a wink for two nights run-ning.

Manny ⁸ Real - ly?

Pno. *mf*

Mrs. M ⁹⁸ I *must* get some sleep this af-ter-noon so I'll be fresh and rest-ed for to-night.

Pno.

100

Mrs. M *Not at all.*

Manny *Hard-ly slept for two nights run - ning? There's some-thing both - er - ing you.*

Pno.

102

Mrs. M *Not at all! Just a bout of in-som - ni - a,*

Manny *There must be.*

Pno. *mp*

104

Mrs. M *noth - ing more.*

Manny *I have them of - ten.*

Pno. *mf*

106

Manny

But I've got some pills that help me drop off. Want me to bring you one?

Pno.

mp

109

Mrs. M

No thanks. All I want is to be left a - lone

Pno.

mf

111

Mrs. M

so I can have that nap!

Manny

All right, I'm go - ing. —

Pno.

f

(He crosses to the door and opens it. Mrs. Leary, dressed in black, stands there.)

113 Mrs. M Oh hel-lo, Mis-sus Lea-ry.— You've come for the rent. (Entering brusquely)

Mrs L. Damn right I have.

Manny Well look who's here!

Pno. *mf*

115 Mrs L. (Gesturing at Manny) Should-a paid it this morn-ing, like he did. Should-a brought it down 'stead-a mak-in' me come up for it.

Pno. *mp*

117 Mrs. M (She exits left.) I'm sor-ry, it slipped my mind.

Mrs L. Did-n't slip his mind.

Manny Nope. An-

Pno.

(Calling to Mrs. M)

(He exits right with the vacuum cleaner.)

Manny ¹¹⁹
 8 oth-er en-vir-on-men-tal task at-tend-ed to. Well thanks for the va-cuum.

Pno. ¹¹⁹

(Mrs. M. returns with a purse in her hand.)

Mrs L. ¹²¹
 Good kid, that one. Un-hap-py as hell, but why not,

Pno. ¹²¹

(Taking a check from the purse and handing it to her)

Mrs. M. ¹²⁴
 Here you are.

Mrs L. ¹²⁴
 in a world like this one.

Pno. ¹²⁴
mf *mp* ³

Mrs. M ¹²⁶ Still dressed in black, I see. (Pocketing the check)

Mrs. L. An - y ob - jec - tions?

Pno. ¹²⁶

Mrs. L. ¹²⁸ I'm still in mourn - ing, for the on - ly crea - ture in this world

Pno. ¹²⁸

Mrs. M ¹³⁰ Well no.

Mrs. L. who ev - er loved me. An - y ob - jec - tions?

Pno. ¹³⁰

Mrs. M ¹³² *mf* *mf*
 Though it is more than a month since...

Mrs. L. *mf*
 Since you an' your dar - ling hus - band

Pno. *mf*
 3 3

Mrs. M ¹³⁴
 That is - n't so!

Mrs. L. *f*
 wished that truck would run o - ver Ad - on - is. Oh yes it is!

Pno. *f*
 3

Mrs. L. ¹³⁶ (Mimicking Mr. M's voice)
 Oh I re - mem - ber how he yelled and yelled, "Some - one ought to si - lence that mutt!"

Pno. *f*
 136

Mrs. M ¹³⁸
 Be-cause he barked and barked the whole day. But that did-n't mean...

Mrs L.
 Oh no,

Pno. ¹³⁸
mf

Mrs L. ¹⁴⁰
 you nev - er mean, you peop - le. Like my hus - band.

Pno. ¹⁴⁰

Mrs L. ¹⁴²
 Called me a witch one Hal - lo - ween, an ug - ly witch,

Pno. ¹⁴²
f

Mrs L. ¹⁴⁴
 but did - n't mean a thing next morn - ing. Ex - cept he did.

Pno. ¹⁴⁴
mf *f*

146

Mrs L. *Two days la-ter, with-out a word, he up an' left.*

Pno. *f*

148

Mrs. M. *Oh that won't hap-pen.*

Mrs L. *Like yours may, one o' these days.*

Pno. *mp*

150

Mrs. M. *We're far, far too hap-py.*

Mrs L. *You've got no right t' be, with all the e - vil, —*

Pno. *mf*

152

Mrs L. *an' all the mis - er - y there is. You read the pa - pers?*

Pno. *f*

154

Mrs L. *Watch the news on T - V? I think it's a sin t' be hap - py —*

Pno.

156

Mrs. M. *Well I'm sor - ry,*

Mrs L. *in this rot - ten world.*

Pno. *mp*

Mrs. M ¹⁵⁸ I just can't help it. So please let me be!

Mrs. L. All right I'll do that.

Pno. ¹⁵⁸ *mf*

(She crosses to the door and opens it. A Nun stands there.)

Nun ¹⁶⁰ Good af - ter-noon!

Mrs. L. And next time pay the rent on time.

Pno. ¹⁶⁰ *mp*

Nun ¹⁶² The front door was un-locked,

Mrs. L. Hey how did you get in here?

Pno. ¹⁶² *mp*

164

Nun

a sure sign that the word of the Lord is wel - come here.

Pno.

166

Mrs. M

Well please come in. (Entering past Mrs. Leary)

Nun

Thank you. I'm Sis-ter Mar-y Im-ma-cu-lat-a of the ho-ly Cath-o-lic or-der

Pno.

169

Nun

of the New Dis-pen-sa-tion. All do-na-tions sup-port our cru-sade

Mrs L.

Oh no!

Pno.

mf

(Opening her purse)

Mrs. M. 171

All right, just a min-ute.

Nun 171

to stamp out e - vil and make this world God's world a - gain.

Pno. 171

Nun 173 (To Mrs. L.)

And you, Mad - am?

Mrs. L. 173 (To Mrs. M.)

Not a cent from me! That hus - band of yours

Pno. 173

Mrs. L. 175

must 've left that door un - locked, which I nev - er do.

Pno. 175

(Taking a bill from the purse and handing it to the Nun)

♩. = 36

Mrs. M 177 Here you are.

Nun 177 Bless you, Mad-am, in the name of him who has brought us

Pno. 177 *mp*

Nun 179 (She quickly exits right.)
this New Dis-pen-sa-tion.

Mrs L. (Laughing)
Well now, that real-ly does it!—

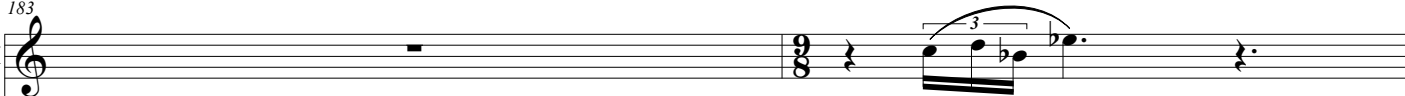
Pno. 179 *mf*

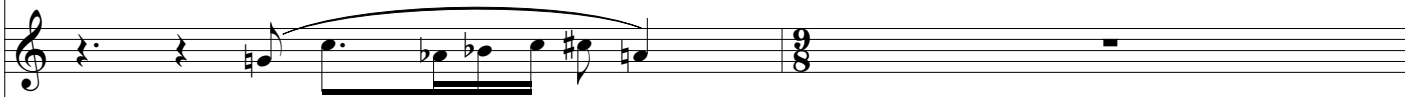
Mrs. M 181 What's so fun-ny?

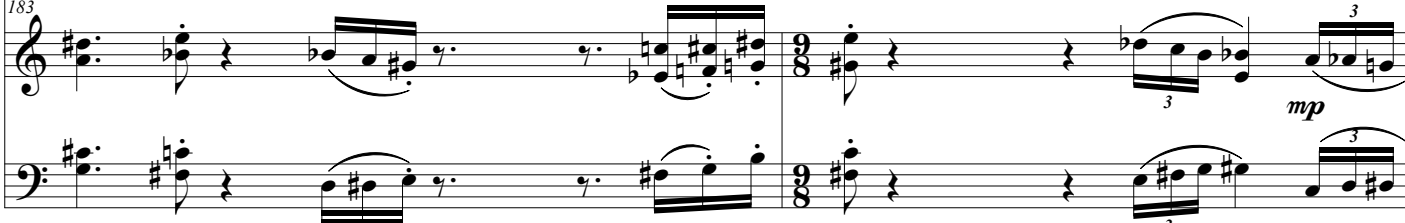
Mrs L. 181 Oh lord - y, that's a good one! You've just do - na - ted

Pno. 181


183


Mrs. M  What do you mean?

Mrs. L  ten bucks to your dam-na - tion!

Pno.  *mp*

185

Mrs. M  Such a sweet young girl. She may not be from *my* church, but she *was* so sweet and po-lite.


Pno. 

188


Mrs. L  From *your* church? Y' know whose church she's from?

Pno.  *f*


(She throws the
purse down on the
couch and rushes
to the door.)

Mrs. M. ¹⁹⁶ 

Oh dear! You're sure?

Mrs. L. 

Won't do no good t' look.

Pno. 

Mrs. L. ¹⁹⁸ 

She's got your mon-ey stowed a-way. Ten bucks for your dam-na-tion.

Pno. ¹⁹⁸ 

Mrs. L. ²⁰⁰ 

Now that just takes the cake! "So sweet and po-lite." Hah!

Pno. ²⁰⁰ 

(Manny appears at the door
with the vacuum cleaner.)

Mrs. M ²⁰³ 
What *now*, Man-ny?


Mrs. L 
Oh look who's back.


Pno. ²⁰³ 
mp

Mrs. L ²⁰⁵ 
Good boy.

Manny ²⁰⁵ 
(Entering)
I've fin-ished clean-ing — my room. So I'm re-turn-ing this.

Pno. ²⁰⁵ 

Mrs. L ²⁰⁷ 
Pays his rent on time, cleans his room, an' re-returns things soon as he's done with them.

Pno. ²⁰⁷ 
mf

Mrs. L. 209
 The kind of ten - ant I like. And now I'll go lock that door

Pno. 209

Mrs. M. 211
 What are they?

Mrs. L. (She exits right.)
 so we don't all get robbed. (Taking two pills from his pocket and laying them on the table)

Manny 8
 I've brought you these.

Pno. 211
f *mp* *mp*

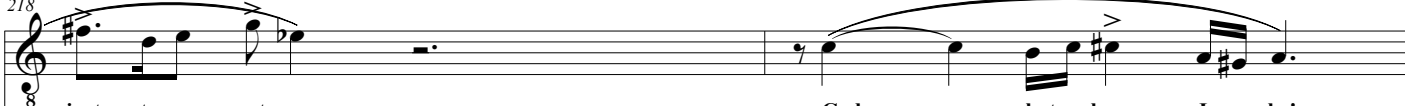
Mrs. M. 213
 I said I did-n'twant them.

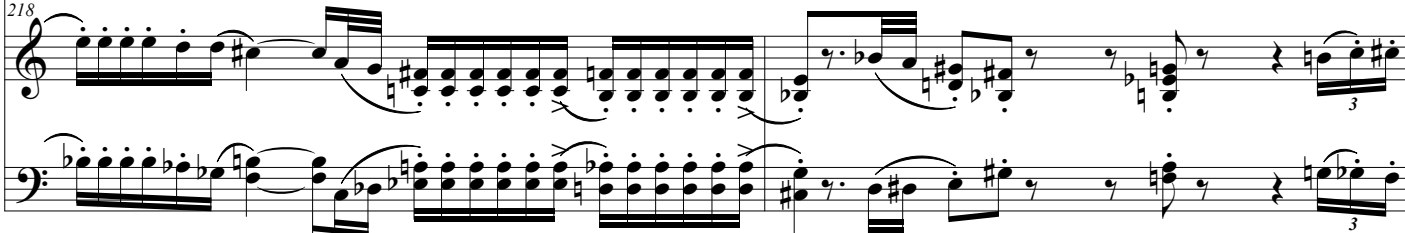
Manny 8
 Some pills, to help you sleep.

Pno. 213
mf

215
Manny 
8 My way of mak-ing a-mends for be-ing so ob-nox-ious be-fore. Read-ing that stor-y in the pa-per

Pno. 

218
Manny 
8 just to up - set you. God, what a bore I can be!

Pno. 

220
Manny 
8 What a bore life can be! "To-mor-row and to-mor-row and to-mor-row

Pno. 

222
Manny 
8 creeps in this pet-ty pace from day to day," et cet-er - a.

Pno. 

224 (Flatly)

Mrs. M Shake - speare.

Manny Well Mac-beth to be ex-act. But Shake - speare gave him those lines.

Pno.

226

Manny Oh yes, he un-der-stood, old Will, what it's like to be in hell.

Pno.

228

Manny A place where time is all slowed down so that each min-ute lasts an ho-ur.---

Pno.

231

Manny And you have noth - ing to do but lis - ten to your breath - ing and your thoughts,

Pno.

233

Mrs. M *f*

All right, that's e-nough! I can't deal with this!

Manny

all a-lone there for-ev-er. —

Pno. *f* *mf*

236

Mrs. M

I can't deal with un-hap-pi-ness! So please, go back up-stairs,

Pno.

238 (Gesturing at the pills)

Mrs. M

and take these with you!

Manny

Yes, I'm go-ing, and I won't be back.

Pno.

Manny 241
8
You can keep those, or throw them a-way. I've got lots more up-stairs,

Pno. 241
8
mp

Manny 243
8
to help me drop off, may - be for good. "Out out, brief can-dle.

Pno. 243
8
mf f mp

Manny 246
8
Life's but a walk-ing shad-ow, a poor play-er — that struts and frets his hour up-on the stage.

Pno. 246
8
12/8

Manny 249
8
and then is heard no more." No more, no more.

Pno. 249
8
mf f
3 3

251 (He exits right. Mrs. M. starts pacing in agitation.)

Mrs. M. Oh dear, oh dear,

Pno. *ff* *mf*

253 my nerves are all in knots. How can I sleep now?

Pno. *mp*

255 (She stops pacing and looks down at the pills.)

Mrs. M. How be fresh and rest-ed as I must be for to-night?

Pno. *mf*

258 (She grabs one of the pills, crosses up to the sink, pops the pill in her mouth, and swallows it with a sip of water.)

Mrs. M. Well may-be one of these. One can't hurt.

Pno. *f* *mp* *mf* *f*

(She pushes the vacuum cleaner off left, takes the purse off the couch, lays it on the floor, lies down and closes her eyes.)

(She springs back up.)

Pno.

mp *p* *mf*

Mrs. M

(She crosses back to the table and picks up the other pill.) (She crosses quickly to the sink and swallows the pill with a sip of water.)

All right, one more. Just one more.

Pno.

f

Mrs. M

(She crosses back to the couch, lies down, closes her eyes, and manages to fall asleep.)

There, that ought to do it. That ought to do it.

Pno.

mp *mf*

Pno.

mp *p* *mf*

Mrs. M

(Manny, wearing the mask of a bulldog, enters, crosses to the couch, and strokes her face.) (Her eyes open quickly. she gasps, and sits bolt upright.)

Who are you? How did you?

Pno.

f

Manny 274
8
Oh that was eas - y to do. The door was un - locked, so it was clear

Pno. 274
mf

Manny 276
8
that I'd be wel - come here. So I just walked in through that door.

Pno. 276
f

Mrs. M 278
I've seen you some-where before. There's some-thing in those big sad eyes

Pno. 278
mf

Mrs. M 280
and droop - ing mouth I rec - og - nize. Ad - on - is! — But you're dead!

Pno. 280
f *mp*

282

Manny

That's ver - y true. I died be - cause you wished me to.

Pno.

284

Manny

But it's the week - end, so I may vis - it you to - day.

Pno.

mf

286

Manny

And I have come to make am - ends, so we may fin - al - ly be friends.

Pno.

(Somewhat calmed by this)

288

Mrs. M

Well yes, that might be nice.

Manny

Though friend - ship al - one

Pno.

290

Manny *8*
will not suf-fice. There's more than *that* I ask of you.

Pno.

292

Mrs. M
Af-fec-tion?

Manny *8*
I want some ten-der af-fec-tion too. With your con-sent, of course.

Pno.

f *mp*

294

Manny *8*
I would-n't dream of us-ing force. I come as lov-er,—

Pno.

mf *f* *mp*

(He crosses to the table, sits, and
picks up the newspaper.)

296

Manny *8*
not as rap-er.— I'll just sit here and read the pa-per

Pno.

mf

298

Mrs. M 
 No go a-way! I've got to get some sleep to-day!

Manny 
 till you con-sent.

Pno. 
f *mp* *mf*

300

Manny 
 Ah here's that stor-y I read of a wom-an who bashed in the head

Pno. 
f *mp* *mf*

302

Manny 
 of a lov-er she want-ed dead. What an aw-ful thing to do.

Pno. 
f *mp* *mf*

304

Mrs. M *But it was Man-ny who read that, not you! Dogs can't read!*

Manny *Ver-y true.*

Pno. *mp*

307

Manny *As a mat - ter of fact, these big sad eyes*

Pno.

309

Mrs. M

Manny *and droop-ing mouth you rec - og-nize (He lifts off the mask.) be-long to Man - ny in dis-guise. Oh*

Pno. *mf*

Mrs. M *no!* **(Pocketing the mask)**

Manny **Poor lone - ly Man - ny,**

Pno. *f* *mp*

Manny **who comes through that door day — af - ter day aseek - ing more**

Pno. *mf*

Manny **than just a lit - tle com - pan - y. — For what he real - ly wants, you see,**

Pno. *mp*

Manny **is an end to his vir - gin - i - ty in the arms of one who seems**

Pno. *mf*

319

Mrs. M *(Rising from the couch)*
Oh dear, I've nev-er guessed

Manny
as eag-er for *him* as in his dreams.

Pno. *f*

321

Mrs. M *(She crosses to the table and looks down at him with some sympathy.)*
that *that* is what makes you so dis-tressed.

Pno. *mp*

323

Mrs. M
But what can I pos-sib-ly do to make things bet-ter for you,

Pno.

Mrs. M ³²⁵ since what you want I can't ev - er give?

Manny ₈ If so,

Pno. ³²⁵ *mf* *p* *mp*

Manny ³²⁷ ₈ I no lon - ger wish to live. I have some pills I mean to take,

Pno. ³²⁷ *mf* *f*

Manny ³²⁹ ₈ and there - by nev - er a - gain a - wake.

Pno. ³²⁹ *mf* *f*

331

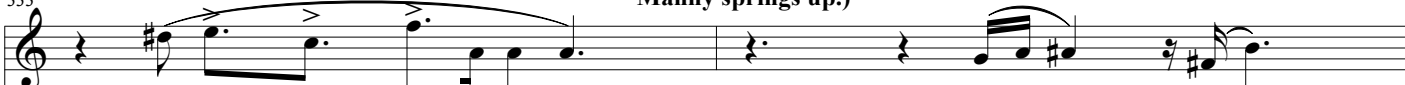
Mrs. M  No, — you don't mean that!


Manny  Oh but I do. How else, how else,

Pno. 

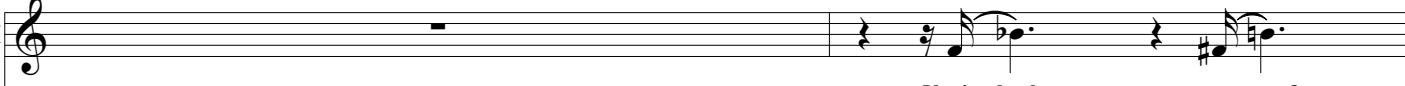
(The Nun enters right,
Manny springs up.)


333

Manny  can I stop lust - ing for you? Oh my God, a nun!

Pno. 

335

Mrs. M  You're back, so soon?

Nun  Good af - ter - noon.

Manny  Were you ex - pect - ing one?

Pno. 

337

Nun

In hope of an - oth - er do - na - tion to the New Dis - pen - sa - tion.

Pno.

339

Mrs. M

(She mimes handing her a bill.)

All right, here you are.

339

Nun

I'm sweet and po - lite, so you won't mind.

339

Pno.

mf

341

Nun

You're ver - y kind. For this you're sure to be blest,

341

Pno.

343

Nun

al - though you're damned like all the rest.

343

Pno.

f *ff*

344 $\text{♩} = 36$ (To Mrs. M.)

Nun
Oh lord, he's ta-ken it a-way! I'll have an-oth-er if I may.

Pno.

346 $\text{♩} = 40$ (Rushing down to Manny)

Mrs. M.
Hey, give that back!

Manny
Oh no, Mis-sus M! This mon-ey must not go to them!

Pno.

(Turning away from her)

348
Manny
I'll keep it though it means my death! I'll save you till my dy-ing breath

Pno.

350 (Turning back to her)

Manny
from those whose bles-sing real-ly kills! Oh yes,

Pno.

352 $\text{♩} = 36$

Manny 8
 rath - er than take those pills, I'll die right here in your de-fense!

Pno. *mf* *f* *ff*

(Rushing to Mrs. M.) $\text{♩} = 32$

Nun
 Oh pun-ish__ this im - pert - in-ence!

Manny 8
 Then you'll see me as some-thing more

Pno. *mp*

Nun
 Oh kill him__ this min-ute!

Manny 8
 than a hor - ny,__ self - pit - y - ing bore!

Pno. *mf* *ff*

358

Nun

Make him pay ——— for be - ing so ob - nox - ious to - day.

Pno.

mf *f*

360

Nun

One blow of that ham-mer and you'll be free of all his nag-ging mis - er - y.

Pno.

mf *f* *mf*

362

Nun

One blow of that ham-mer — and then your life can be hap - py a - gain.

Pno.

mp *ff*

364 (Mrs. Leary enters.)

Nun

No! Show none!

Mrs L.

Oh pit - y, — pit - y! —

Pno.

(Mrs. M. lifts her arm
and mimes smashing
Manny's head with
a hammer,)

(Manny falls dead.)


Mrs. M.  Well there, it's done!


Nun  He has it com-ing!

Pno. 

(Dropping to her
knees before
Manny)

(Pulling him into her arms)

Mrs. L.  Oh Man-ny my son! Ad-on-is my son! You're both of you dead,

Pno. 

Mrs. L.  and she does-n't care! For that she'll get the el-ec-tric chair!

Pno. 

Mrs. M.  No! That is-n't fair! I had rea-sons to kill them!

Pno. 

375

Mrs. M. *They want-ed — my bod - y!*

Mrs. L. *No use! That's no ex - cuse.*

Pno. *mp*

377

Mrs. L. *They came as lov - ers, not as rap - ers. —*

Pno. *mf*

379

Mrs. L. *To - mor - row — they'll read a - bout you in the pa - pers. —*

Pno. *f*

(To the Nun)

Mrs. M ³⁸⁰ *Oh dear, I'm fright-ened!*

Nun ³⁸⁰ *I don't see why.*

Pno. ³⁸⁰ *mp*

Mrs. M ³⁸² *You*

Nun ³⁸² *Dy - ing's quite eas - y, if you don't try.*

Pno. ³⁸² *f*

Mrs. M ³⁸⁴ *mean you're go-ing to let me die?*

Nun ³⁸⁴ *Just re-lax, from head to toe,*

Pno. ³⁸⁴ *mf mp*

387

Nun

and then from toe to head.

Pno.

389

Nun

The next thing you know, it's morn - ing, and you're dead.

Pno.

mf

391

Mrs L.

And straight to hell you'll go for be - ing too hap - py to know

Pno.

f *mp* *f*

393

Mrs L.

how rot - ten life is for all but you.

Pno.

mp

Mrs L. 395

And there you'll have noth - ing to do but think and think in - ces - sent - ly

Pno. 395 *mf*

Mrs L. 397

a - bout all the e - vil

Pno. 397 *f*

Mrs L. 398

and all the mis - er - y you've nev - er thought a - bout here.

Pno. 398 *mp*

Mrs. M 400

Oh dear, oh dear!

Pno. 400 *f*

(Mrs. Leary lifts Manny
to his feet, and both stand
glaring at Mrs. M.)

Mrs. M. ⁴⁰² Will no - bod - y help me? Will no - bod - y save me?

Nun ⁴⁰² No use.

Mrs L. ⁴⁰² No use!

Manny ⁴⁰² No use!

Pno. ⁴⁰²

(Mrs. Leary, Manny and the Nun
cross slowly right and exit.)

(Mrs. M. collapses on the sofa.)

Nun ⁴⁰⁵ No use. No use. No use.

Mrs L. ⁴⁰⁵ No use. No use. No use.

Manny ⁴⁰⁵ No use. No use. No use.

Pno. ⁴⁰⁵ *mf* *mp*

(Mr. M. rushes in from the right, clutching a champagne bottle.)

♩. = 40

408

Mr. M

Dar-ling, pre-pare your-self!

Pno.

p

f

3

3

412

Mr. M

Pre-pare your-self! Oh, you're a-sleep. Well good!

Pno.

mp

rit.----- ♩. = 36

415

Mr. M

You're tak - ing that nap. But time to wake up.

Pno.

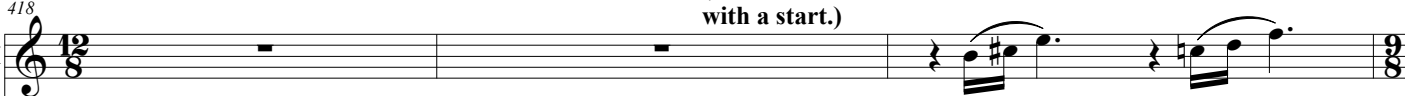
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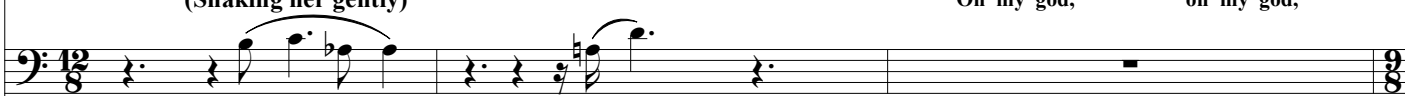
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36

(Mrs. M. awakes
with a start.)


418

Mrs. M. 

Mr. M. 

(Shaking her gently) Oh my god, oh my god,

Wake up, dar-ling, wake up.

Pno. 

f *ff* *f*

3 3 3

421

Mrs. M. 

Mr. M. 

it's you!

What's wrong? Are you all right?

Pno. 

mf

3 3 3

423

Mrs. M. 

Mr. M. 


(Dazedly)

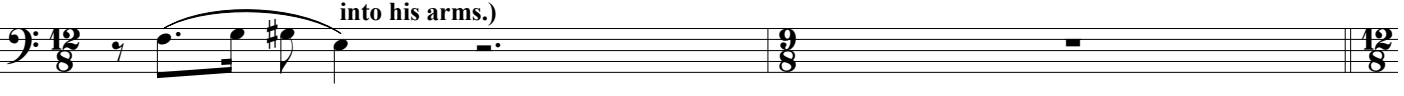
A dream. I've had this aw - ful dream.


Pno. 

mp

425

Mrs. M 

Mr. M 

Pno. 

427

Mrs. M 

Mr. M 

Pno. 

430 $\text{♩} = 36$

Mrs. M 

Mr. M 

Pno. 

432

Mr. M

Yep, that's how I am. I nev - er can re-call a dream

Pno.

434

Mrs. M

Mr. M

I may re-mem-ber this one

five min-utes af-ter wak-ing.

Pno.

436

Mrs. M

Mr. M

as long as I live.

Oh I don't think so.

Pno.

mp

438

Mr. M *mf*
 What - ev - er it was will sure-ly pass,
 es - pec-ial-ly when I tell you

Pno. *mf*

440 $\text{♩} = 44$

Mrs. M

Mr. M *f*
 why I'm home a-gain. Guess what! I got it!—
 What? Got what?

Pno. *f* *mp*

443

Mrs. M

Mr. M *f* *mp* *mf*
 The pro-mo - tion! Could-n't wait till din - ner, the boss.
 Oh.

Pno. *f* *mp* *mf*

Mrs. M ⁴⁵⁰ Yes. Yes,

Mr. M be - fore — he comes to pick us up.

Pno. *mf* *p*

Mrs. M ⁴⁵² we ought to cel - e - brate. ♩. = 36

Mr. M I'll get some glass - es and un - cork this.

Pno. *mf*

(He lets go of her, crosses to the sink, lays out two glasses, and starts to uncork the bottle.)

Mrs. M ⁴⁵⁴ *mp* The big pro - mo - tion. Just what we were hop - ing for.

Pno. *p* *mp* *f* *mp*

(The cork pops. He pours champagne into one of the glasses and takes it to her.)

457

Mrs. M *Thank you.* (He crosses back to the sink and pours champagne into the other glass.)

Mr. M *Here you are.* *Oh by the way,*

Pno. *mf*

459

Mrs. M *No!* *What a-bout him?*

Mr. M *have you heard a-bout Man-ny? —*

Pno. *f*

461

Mrs. M *What do you mean, gone?*

Mr. M *He's gone.* *De-part-ed.*

Pno.

464

Mr. M

Mis-sus Lear-y told me. Said he'd found an-oth-er room, some-where or oth-er,

Pno.

mp *mf*

467

Mrs. M

Oh dear, oh dear.

Mr. M

and moved right out, just like that.

Pno.

f *mp* *mf*

469

Mr. M

She was pret-ty — up-set, as you can im - ag - ine.

Pno.

f

471

Mrs. M

Did - n't — e - ven — say good-bye to me.

Pno.

mp

473

Mrs. M

Or may - be he did, in his own way.

Pno.

475

Mr. M

Soon we'll be moving too. To a big - ger, bet - ter ap-art - ment

Pno.

477

Mrs. M  Yes, we'll be moving too.

Mr. M  in a ni- cer part of town.

Pno. 

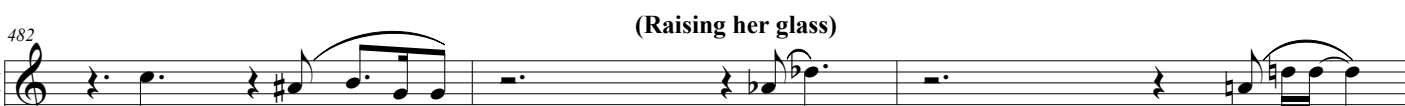
479


Mrs. M  To a big-ger, bet-ter ap-art-ment in a nic-er part of town.


Mr. M  So what - a - ya say — we drink to that!

Pno. 

482

Mrs. M  Yes. Let's drink to that. (Raising her glass) To us. Our fu-ture.

Mr. M  To us! Our fu-ture.——

Pno. 

485

Mrs. M *The fam-i - ly we'll raise. But al - so*

Mr. M *The fam-i - ly we'll raise.*

Pno. *mf*

488

Mrs. M *to them. Man - ny.*

Mr. M *To them? Him too?*

Pno.

490

Mrs. M *And Mis-sus Lear - y. And all the un - hap - py peop - le,*

Mr. M *Her too?*

Pno.

Mrs. M ⁴⁹²
ev - 'ry - where, who some - how go on, to - mor - row and to - mor - row and to - mor - row.

Pno. ⁴⁹²

Mr. M ⁴⁹⁴
Well it's a strange kind of toast. But why not?

Pno. ⁴⁹⁴

Mrs. M ⁴⁹⁶
To them.

Mr. M ⁴⁹⁶
To them. But most - ly, most - ly to us.

Pno. ⁴⁹⁶
f *mp*

498

Mrs. M *No, — not most - ly, not most - ly. Just to us as well.*

Pno. *mf*

500

Mrs. M *Thank you.*

Mr. M *All right, if you in - sist. Just to us as well.*

Pno. *mp*

(Both drain their glasses, lay them in the sink, and fall into each others' arms as lights fade to black.)

502

Pno. *mf* *f*

$\text{♩} = 32$