

Peter Schaffter
Sandburg Nocturnes

Texts by Carl Sandburg



1. High Moments
2. Offering and Rebuff
3. One Parting
4. Guaranteed Antique
5. Night Bells
6. Old Music for Quiet Hearts

Sandburg Nocturnes

1. High Moments

Larghetto *p* Peter Schaffter

Voice

Keep this flower to re-mem-ber me by. So she told him.

Larghetto (♩ = 58) *p*

Piano

Keep this, re - mem - ber me.*

Fold this flower where you nev-er for-get. Put me by where time no long - er

* Original text: *Keep this, remember me, remember.*

counts. Then come back to a sure re-mem-ber - ing.

poco ritard...... *poco più mosso*

poco ritard...... *poco più mosso*
(♩ = 62)

Night it - self, night is one long dark flower.

She said night knows deep re-mem-ber-ings, All flowers be-ing some

kind of re-mem-ber-ing. And night it-self fold-ing up like man-y

*Accidentals apply throughout staff bars

poco riten.

smooth dark flowers.

poco riten.
(♩ = 60)

mp espressivo

Find me like the night

finds. She mea-sured her-self so. Keep me

poco cres.

like the night keeps For I have night deeps in

p

*stringendo
poco a poco cresc.*

più mosso

me. *più mosso* (♩ = 66)

Flesh is a doom and a pris-on.

*stringendo
poco a poco cresc.*

3 3

Flesh jails those on - ly flesh. Air speaks nev-er-the-less,

f *ritard.* *p*

3 3 3 3

spray, fire, air, thin

f *ritard.* *p*

tempo 5/4 4/4 5/4

poco a poco dim.

voic - es be - yond cap - ture save on - ly in re - mem - ber - ing the

tempo

p poco a poco dim.

3/4 4/4

freely 5

3 3 3

lus - tre of lost stars, the reach for a wa - fer of moon.

8

colla voce

pp

Tempo I 4/4 3/4 5/4 5/4

p *poco*

Let ustalk it o-ver long and wear creamgold but-tons and beproud

Tempo I

p

3 3

ritard......

we have an-ger and pride to - geth - er, re-mem-ber-ing

ritard......

tempo

high love - li-ness hov-ers in time and is made of pass - ing

tempo

ritard.

mo-ments. I have kept high mo-ments. They go

a tempo, rit.

round and round in me.

a tempo, rit. al fine

pp

dim. al fine

2. Offering and Rebuff

Peter Schaffter

Voice

Piano

Tranquillo (♩ = 56)

rit.----- *tempo* *rit.*----- *tempo* *rit.*-----

mp *p* *p*

poco riten.

tempo I could love you as dry roots love rain. *poco riten.*

tempo I could hold you as branch-es in the wind bran-dish pet - als. For -

tempo *pp*

poco rit. *tempo*

p *pp*

give me for speak-ing so soon.

Let your heart look on white sea

spray and be lone - ly. Love is a fool star. You and a

mp *p non cres.*

Red. * Red. 4/8 * 4/8 4/8 Red. * Red. * simile

ring of stars may men - tion my name and then for - get me.

rit. *p*

Red. *

Love is a fool star.

meno mosso *pp*

Red. *

3. One Parting

Peter Schaffter

Voice

Piano

Tempo di valse (♩ = 50)
rubato

rit...... *a tempo*

mp

rit......

Andante (♩ = 68)

Why did he write to her, "I

p *più p* *p*

Red. * *Red.* * *simile*

can't live_ with you?"

più p *p* *rit.*..... **Tempo I** *mp*

rit...... **Andante** **And**

p come prima

rall.-----

why did she write to him, "I can't live with-out you"?

rall.----- *tempo* *rit.*-----

pp

Tempo I *rit.*----- **Andante**

sempre pp *p*

riten.-----

For he went west, she went east, and they both lived.

riten.----- *tempo* **Tempo I**

p

rit. al fine

pp

Red. *

4. Guaranteed Antique

Peter Schaffter

Allegretto (♩ = 112)

Voice

Piano

mf *un poco traballante*

rit.

p mp

con il piano *riten.*

Life is just a bowl of cher - ries. Death is a kiss and an

a tempo *rit.* *riten.* (♩ = 100)

ash-tray. **Adagio passionata**

Sup-pose Jud - das Is - car - i - at had writ-ten

Adagio passionata (♩ = 58)

p *stravagante*

Ad. *

rit.-----

Mar-y Mag - da-lene: "I love you, I love you." Would Mar-y have

tempo

rit.----- *tempo*

più mosso
f sprezzantemente

an - swered: "You... you? Since when?"

più mosso (♩ = 70)

Tempo I

f *mf*

Red. *

Life is just a bowl of

p *mp*

5. Night Bells

Peter Schaffter

Voice

Piano

Lento (♩ = 40)

ppp

m.g.

pp

p

Two bells six bells

riten. *tempo*

two bells six bells On a blue pa - vil - lion Out a -

riten. *tempo*

cross a smooth blue pa - vil - lion And be - tween each

poco più forte

pp

mp

mp

poco cres.

bell one clear cry of a wom - an "Lord_ God you made the

Red. * *Red.* * *Red.* * *Red.* * *Red.* *

riten.

night too long too long."

riten. *tempo*

ppp rit. e dim. al fine

Red. * *Red.* *

6. Old Music for Quiet Hearts

Peter Schaffter

Largo

Voice

Be still as be-fore oh

Largo (♩ = 58)

p *legatissimo*

poco riten.

pool Be blue and still oh pool As be - fore blue as be-fore still Oh

poco riten.

tempo
poco cresc.

pool of the man - y com - mu - nions

tempo

poco cresc.

poco cresc.

A wing-print may come Flash o-ver and be gone A

rit.-----*a tempo*

(cresc.)-----

yel-low leaf may fall May sink and join com-pan-ion fall-en leaves The

poco rit.-----*tempo*

poco rit.-----*tempo*

print of blue sky The night bowl of stars These far off pass and by-pass

poco cresc.-----

rit.-----

rit.-----

poco meno mosso

Tempo I

O-ver you blue o-ver you still Oh pool of the man-y com - mu - nions

poco meno mosso

Tempo I

cantando

Detailed description: This system contains the first two systems of music. The top system is a vocal line starting with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and a 3/8 time signature. The lyrics are "O-ver you blue o-ver you still Oh pool of the man-y com - mu - nions". The tempo is marked "poco meno mosso" and "Tempo I". The piano accompaniment is in the same key signature and starts with a 3/8 time signature. It features a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. A "cantando" marking is placed over the piano accompaniment.

cresc.

mf

rit.

dim.

Detailed description: This system shows the piano accompaniment for the second system of music. It continues with the same key signature and time signature. The right hand has a melodic line with a "cresc." (crescendo) marking. The left hand has a bass line. The dynamic marking "mf" (mezzo-forte) is present. The system ends with a "rit." (ritardando) and "dim." (diminuendo) marking.

a tempo

Now hold your qui - et glass oh pool Now keep your

a tempo

(dim.) p

Detailed description: This system contains the third system of music. The top system is a vocal line starting with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are "Now hold your qui - et glass oh pool Now keep your". The tempo is marked "a tempo". The piano accompaniment is in the same key signature and starts with a 4/4 time signature. It features a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. A "(dim.) p" (diminuendo piano) marking is present.

mir - ror-light blue They come and they go And one and all You know them

poco riten...... *tempo*

one and all And they know not you Nor you nor your mir - ror-light

poco riten...... *tempo*

, rit. al fine

blue On - ly old mu - sic for qui - et hearts

, rit. al fine