

If I Can Stop One Heart From Breaking

Poem by Emily Dickinson

Thoughtfully

Music by
Serban Nichifor

The first system of the musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is for Soprano (S-A) in treble clef, the middle for Bass (B) in bass clef, and the bottom for Piano (Pno) in grand staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). A tempo marking of quarter note = 74 is indicated at the beginning. The piano part features a melody of eighth notes in the right hand and a bass line of dotted half notes in the left hand, both marked with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The vocal parts are currently silent.

The second system continues the musical score. The piano accompaniment remains the same. The Soprano (S-A) part enters in the second measure with a triplet of eighth notes, marked with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The Bass (B) part enters in the same measure with a similar triplet, also marked *mf*. The lyrics "If I can" are written below the vocal lines. The system concludes with the piano accompaniment continuing its pattern.

x 1 *mf* ; x 2 *f*

S-A
5)
stop a heart from break - ing, I shall not

B
stop a heart from break - ing, I shall not

Pno

S-A
7)
live in vain; If I can

B
live in vain; If I can

Pno

9

S-A

ease one life the ach - ing, Or cool one

B

ease one life the ach - ing, Or cool one

Pno

11

S-A

pain, Or help, Or help one

B

(B. ord) pain, Or help, Or help one

Pno

13

S-A

faint - - - - ing

14

rob - in Un - to his

B

faint - - - - ing

rob - in Un - to his

Pno

15

S-A

nest a - - gain, I

B

nest a - - gain, I

Pno

17

S-A

shall not live in

B

shall not live in

Pno

19

1

S-A

vain. If I can

B

vain If I can

Pno

21 2

S-A
vain, in

B
vain, in

Pno

23 = 70 = 60 = 50 = 40

S-A
vain. A

B
vain. A

Pno
rall.

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