

Forever

Paul Laurence Dunbar (1872-1906)

Gary Bachlund

Largo *in hushed tones throughout*

I had not known be - fore — For - ev - er was so

mp

The first system of the musical score for 'Forever' is in 3/4 time with a key signature of three flats. It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The piano part begins with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The lyrics are: "I had not known be - fore — For - ev - er was so".

7
long a word. The slow stroke of the clock of time — I had not heard. —

The second system of the musical score continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "long a word. The slow stroke of the clock of time — I had not heard. —".

13
'Tis hard to learn so late; — It seems no sad heart real-ly learns, —

The third system of the musical score continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "'Tis hard to learn so late; — It seems no sad heart real-ly learns, —".

19
— but hopes and trusts and doubts and fears, — and bleeds and burns. —

The fourth system of the musical score concludes the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "— but hopes and trusts and doubts and fears, — and bleeds and burns. —".

2
25

Forever

The night is not all dark, — nor

Musical score for measures 25-30. The vocal line begins with a rest, followed by the lyrics. The piano accompaniment features a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand and a steady bass line in the left hand.

31

is the day — all it seems, but each may bring me this re - lief -- my dreams and dreams.

Musical score for measures 31-36. The vocal line continues with the lyrics. The piano accompaniment maintains a consistent harmonic and rhythmic pattern.

37

I had not known be - fore — that - nev - er was so sad a word.

Musical score for measures 37-41. The vocal line continues with the lyrics. The piano accompaniment features a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand.

42

rit.

So wrap me in for - get - ful - ness -- I have not heard. —

Musical score for measures 42-47. The vocal line concludes with the lyrics. The piano accompaniment features a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand and a steady bass line in the left hand. The piece ends with a *pp* dynamic marking.

circa 3' 00"