

26. Cafe Song

(Empty Chairs at Empty Tables)

MARIUS, recovering from his wounds, imagines he is back in the ABC Café.

Moderato (♩ = 93)

MARIUS:

p
There's a grief that can't be

A1

spo-ken There's a pain goes on and on Emp-ty chairs at emp-ty

tab-les Now my friends are dead and gone. *mf* Here they talked of rev-o-

12 **A2**

lu-tion, Here it was they lit the flame. Here they sang a-bout 'to-

16

mor-row' And to - mor-row nev - er came. From the

20 **B Più mosso** $\text{♩} = 112-120$

tab-le in the cor-ner They could see a world re - born— And they

24

rose with voic - es ring - ing And I can hear them now, The ver - y

poco rall. A Tempo rall.

A Tempo

rall.

28

words that they had sung Be - came their last com - mun-ion

f *dim.*

Poco meno

rall.

Tempo primo

32

On the lone-ly bar-ri - cade at dawn. Oh my friends, my friends, for-

p

The ghosts of those who died on the barricade appear.

C

36

give me. That I live and you are gone...

Più mosso

39

There's a grief that can't be spo-ken There's a pain goes on and on.

mf appassionato

D

43

Phan-tom fac - es at the win-dow. _____ Phan-tom shad-ows on the

46

floor, _____ Emp - ty chairs at emp - ty tab - les Where my

49

ten. accel. sub. A Tempo rall.

friends will meet no more. Oh my friends, my friends don't

E A Tempo

The ghosts fade away.

52

ask me What your sac - ri - fice was for.

f

Detailed description: This system contains measures 52, 53, and 54. The vocal line is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are "ask me What your sac - ri - fice was for." The piano accompaniment consists of a right hand with eighth-note patterns and a left hand with sustained chords. A dynamic marking of *f* is present at the start of measure 52.

55

poco rall.

molto rall.

Emp - ty chairs at emp - ty tab - les Where my friends will sing no

dim. molto

Detailed description: This system contains measures 55, 56, and 57. The vocal line continues with the lyrics "Emp - ty chairs at emp - ty tab - les Where my friends will sing no". The tempo markings *poco rall.* and *molto rall.* are placed above the vocal line. The piano accompaniment features a right hand with chords and a left hand with sustained notes. A dynamic marking of *dim. molto* is placed below the piano part in measure 55.

58

Tempo primo ♩ = 96-100

rall.

more.

pp *p* *pp*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 58, 59, 60, and 61. The vocal line has a whole rest in measure 58 with the lyric "more." The piano accompaniment is in bass clef. Measure 58 starts with a dynamic marking of *pp*. A crescendo hairpin is shown between measures 59 and 60, ending with a dynamic marking of *p*. A decrescendo hairpin is shown between measures 60 and 61, ending with a dynamic marking of *pp*. The system concludes with a double bar line.