

THE HARDEST PART OF LOVE

From the musical "CHILDREN OF EDEN"

Music and Lyrics by
STEPHEN SCHWARTZ

Con moto (♩ = 92)

C#m G#m6/B A F#m9 D Bm7(4) E5 D2/E

The piano introduction consists of three staves. The top staff is a treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 6/8 time signature. The middle and bottom staves are a grand staff. The music begins with a *mf* dynamic. The melody in the right hand features eighth-note patterns, while the left hand provides a steady bass line. The piece concludes with a final chord of D2/E.

Rubato

C#m/E D2/E *rall.* E5 D2/E

Oh, this son of mine I love so well, and

This section features a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in a treble clef with a key signature of three sharps and a 6/8 time signature. The piano accompaniment is in a grand staff. The tempo is marked *rall.* (ritardando). The lyrics are: "Oh, this son of mine I love so well, and". The piano accompaniment includes a *pp* (pianissimo) dynamic marking.

C#m/E D5/E E C#m7

oh, the toll it takes. I would give to him a gar - den and
(alt: build a bridge of dreams for him, and

This section continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in a treble clef with a key signature of three sharps and a 6/8 time signature. The piano accompaniment is in a grand staff. The lyrics are: "oh, the toll it takes. I would give to him a gar - den and (alt: build a bridge of dreams for him, and". The piano accompaniment includes a *pp* (pianissimo) dynamic marking.

D E G#m A

keep it clear of snakes. But the one thing he most treasures is to
 patch it when it breaks.)

B C#m F#m

make his own mis-takes. Oh... He goes
 (alt: He is

E5 D5/E C#m/E D5/E E5

charg-ing up the cliffs of life, a reck-less moun-tain-er. I could
 bound for lands I've trav-elled, I re-mem-ber them so clear.)

mf

A/E D/E E

help him not to stum-ble, I could warn him what to fear. I could

G#m A B C#m F#m7

shout un - til I'm breath - less, and he'd still re - fuse to hear. Oh...

B F#m Amaj7 B

But you can - not close the a - corn once the oak

G#m7 C#m G#m C#7/E#

be - gins to grow, And you can - not close your heart to what it

F#m Amaj7 B G#m A C#m B

fears and needs to know: That the hard - est part of love is the let - ting

a tempo

C#m G#m6/B A F#m D Bm7(4) E5 D2/E

go ... As a child, I found a spar - row that had

a tempo

C#m/E D2/E E5 C#m7 Amaj7

fall - en from its nest, and I nursed it back to health till it was

F#m9 D2 E F#m7 G#m A C#m

strong - er than the rest. But when I tried to hold it then, it

B C#m F#m7 Amaj7 B

pecked and scratched my chest, till I let it go ... And I

E5 D2/E C#m/E D2/E E5

watched it fly a-way from me with its bright and self-ish song, And a

C#m7 Amaj7 F#m9 D2 E5

part of me was curs-ing I had helped it grow so strong. And I

G#m A C#m7 B C#m F#m7 Amaj7

feared it might go hun-gry, and I feared it might go wrong, Oh...

B F#m Amaj7 B

But I could not close the a-corn once the oak

G#m7 C#m G#m G#m7/F# C#7/E#

be - gan to grow, And I can - not close my heart to what it

F#m Amaj7 B G#m A C#m B

fears and needs to know: That the hard - est part of love...

C#m G#m6/B A F#m D Bm7(4) E5 D2/E

... is the let - ting go ...

C#m/E *poco rit.* D2/E E5 *a tempo* D2/E

And it's on - ly in E - den grows a

poco rit. *a tempo*

C#m/E D2/E E5 C#m

rose with - out a thorn. And your chil - dren start to leave you on the

D/E E5 G#m A

day that they are born. They will leave you there to cheer for them, They will

B C#m F#m Amaj7 B

leave you there to mourn ev - er so. Like an ark

cresc.

E5 D2/E C#m/E D2/E E5

on un - chart - ed seas, their lives will be tossed. And the

Amaj9 F#m7 D2 E

deep - er is your love for them, the cruel - er is the cost. And

G#m A C#m B C#m F#m7 Amaj7

just when they start to find them - selves is when you fear they're lost. Oh...

B F#m Amaj7 B

But you can - not close the a - corn once the oak

G#m7 C#m G#m7 G#m7/F# C#E#

be - gins to grow, and you can - not close your heart to what it

F#m Amaj7 B G#m A C#m B

fears and needs to know: That the hard-est part of love... And the

G#m A C#m B C#m A

rar-est part of love... And the true-est part of

Bsus B C#m G#m6/B A F#m D Bm7(4)

love... Love is let-ting

E5 D2/E C#m/E D2/E E2

go.

rit.