

The Rival(s)

Original Poem by
Sylvia Plath

Put to Music with an alternate Poem by
J.R. Besset

With a certain alertness, even abruptly ♩ = 100 ca.

Piano



The piano introduction consists of two staves (treble and bass clef) with a grand staff brace. The music is in 5/4, 4/4, 2/4, and 6/4 time signatures. It features a complex harmonic structure with many sharps and naturals, and a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes.

Soprano



4

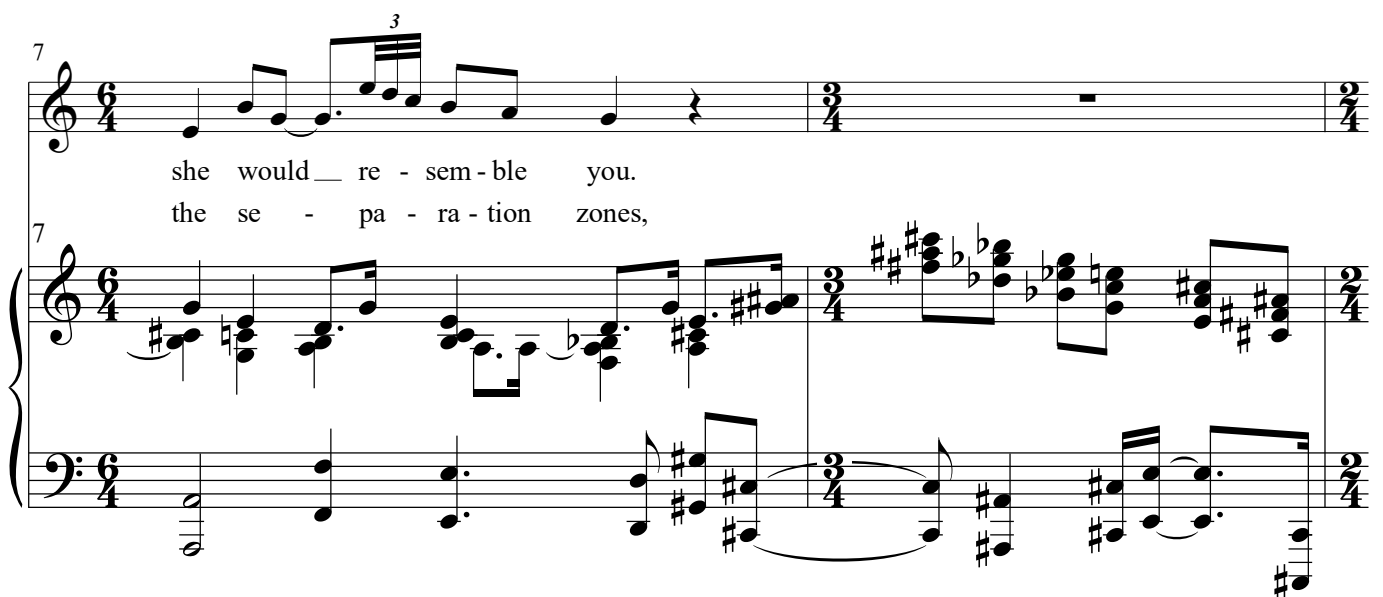
If the moon smiled,
A - stride

4



8_{vb}

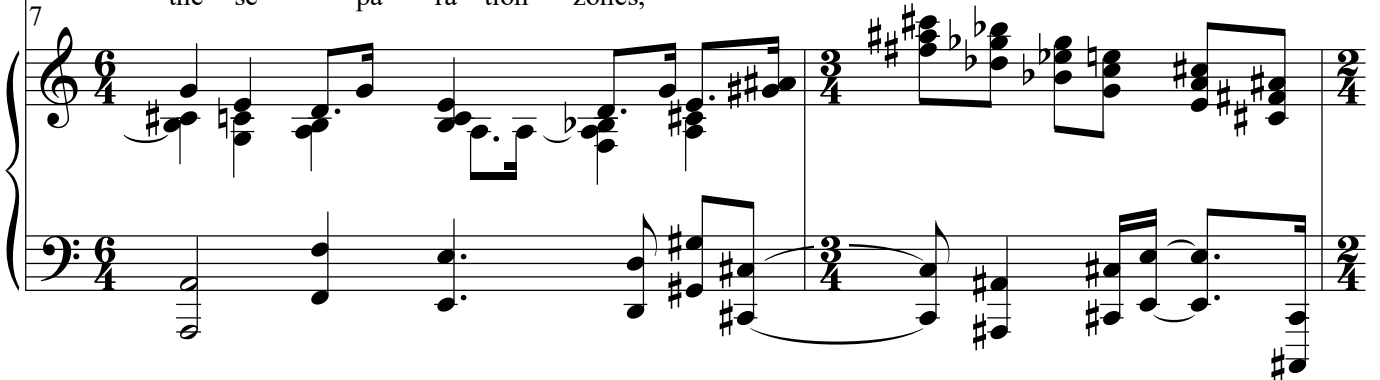
The first system of the vocal score includes a soprano line and a piano accompaniment. The soprano line starts with a rest for 4 measures, then enters with the lyrics. The piano accompaniment is in 6/4, 4/4, 3/4, and 6/4 time signatures. A dynamic marking of 8_{vb} is present in the piano part.



7

she would re - sem - ble you.
the se - pa - ra - tion zones,

7



3

The second system continues the vocal score. The soprano line has a triplet of eighth notes marked with a '3' above it. The piano accompaniment continues with the same complex harmonic and rhythmic language.

The Rival(s)

9

she would re - sem - ble you.
They stand. Fle - xing their tongue-tied tones,

11

You leave the same im - pres - sion Of some - thing beau - ti -
They in - tone in mo - no - tones, That words will not suf -

13

ful, but a - ni - hi - la - ting.
fice, To rid their world

The Rival(s)

16

but a - ni - hi - la - ting.
To - rid their world of all the ad-vice,

20

Both of you
Gi - ven

23

are great light bor - row - ers. Her O - mouth
by well-mea-ners, And un - fore-see - ners. Jus - ti - fied,

The Rival(s)

26

grieves at the world; yours is un - af - fec - ted,
they _____ stand pu - ri - fied,

29

33

And your first gift is ma - king stone out of
Be - cause they have _____ vi - li - fied, they have

36

e - very - thing. I wake to a mau - so - le -
vi - li - fied, One a - no - ther, right here and now _____

The Rival(s)

40

- - you are here, Ti-cking your fin-gers on the mar-ble
 On the track. Now has come the time, To

44

ta-ble, loo-king for
 show off, to try

48

ci-ga-rettes, Spite-ful as a wo-man,
 their luck, To com-bat,

The Rival(s)

51

but not so ner - vous, And dy -
to _____ ditch the slime, From creeps _____

51

3

3

54

- ing to say some-thing un - an - swe - ra - ble.
_____ who _____ ma - lig - nant - ly,

54

58

58

62

62

The Rival(s)

66

69

72

The moon, too, _____ a - ba - ses her sub-jects,
 Cast doubts on their a - bi - li - ty. "Come on, _____

76

But in the day - time she is ri - di - cu - lous.
 be _____ a sport," says one, _____ "In this field,

The Rival(s)

8^{va}-----1

79

84

Your dis - sa - fac - tions, on the o - ther hand,
 don't for - get I'm just as good as you, _____

84

90

Ar - rive through the mail slot with lo - ving
 If not bet - ter, That's my sub - stance _____

90

94

re - gu - la - ri - ty,
 And my sus - te - nance".

94

The Rival(s)

97

White and blank, ex - pan - sive as car - bon mo - nox - ide. _____
 "Yon trai - ners egg us on, Lea - ning on us _____

97

102

107

111

No day is safe from
 Lea-ning on us Lea -

111

10

115

The Rival(s)

news of you, Wal king - - - - -
ning on us like Was - - - - - ted limbs

118

a - - - - - bout in A - - - - - fri - ca
on - - - - - cru - tches." on - - - - - cru - tches."

121

may - be, but thin - - - - -
Says the o - ther,

124

king - - - - - of me.
jum - - - - - ping the gun.