

# I Started Early – Took My Dog

♩ = 96c. *spare*

The score consists of a piano introduction and a vocal section. The piano introduction is in 4/4 time, marked *pp*, and features a descending eighth-note pattern in the bass line. The vocal section begins at measure 4, with the Soprano and Alto parts starting on the lyrics "I start - ed ear - ly, took my". The Tenor and Bass parts enter at measure 5 with the lyrics "I start - ed". The piano accompaniment continues with the same eighth-note pattern, marked *pochiss.* and *pp*. The score includes dynamic markings (*pp*, *p*, *pochiss.*) and performance instructions like *Red.* and asterisks.

**Piano Introduction:**

- Measures 1-4: *pp*, 4/4 time.
- Measures 5-8: *pochiss.*, 2/4 time, then 4/4 time.

**Vocal Section:**

- Measure 4: Soprano (S) and Alto (A) enter with *p* dynamics: "I start - ed ear - ly, took my".
- Measure 5: Tenor (T) and Bass (B) enter with *pp* dynamics: "I start - ed".

**Piano Accompaniment (Vocal Section):**

- Measures 4-5: *pochiss.*
- Measures 6-8: *pp*.

S dog, and vi - si - ted the sea The mer - maids in the

A dog, and vi - si - ted the sea The mer - maids in the

T ear - ly, I took my dog, the

B ear - ly, I took my dog, the

*Red.* \* *Red.* \* *Red.*

*pochiss.* *pp*

S base - ment came out to look at

A base - ment came out to look at

T mer - maids in the base - ment came out.

B mer - maids in the base - ment came out.

*(Red.)* \* *Red.* \*

*mp* *pp*

11

S me, and

A me, and

T and

B and

*pp*

*pp*

*poco mf*

*sub. pp*

*Red.* \* *Red.* \* *Red.* \* *Red.* \* *Red.* \* *Red.* \*

13

S fri - gates in the up - per floor ex -

A fri - gates in the up - per floor ex -

T - fri - gates in the

B - fri - gates in the

*mf* *p*

*mf* *p*

*poco mf*

*sub. pp*

*Red.* \* *Red.* \* *Red.* \* *Red.* \* *Red.* \* *Red.* \*

S -ten - ded hem - pen hands — pre su - ming me to be a

A -ten - ded hem - pen hands — pre su - ming me to be a

T up - - - per floor ex - - - ten - - - - ded

B up - - - per floor ex - - - ten - - - - ded

*poco*

*pp*

Red. \* Red. \* Red. \* Red. \* Red. \* Red. \* Red. \*

S *mp* mouse a - ground up - on the

A *mp* mouse a - ground up - on the

T *mp* hem - pen hands.

B *mp* hem - pen hands.

*pp*

Red. \* Red. \* Red. \* Red. \* Red. \* Red. \*

19

S sands. But *p*

A sands. But *p*

T — But *pp*

B — But *pp*

*ff* > *mf*

*pp sub.*

21

S no man moved me till the tide went

A no man moved me till the tide went

T no man moved me

B no man moved me

22 *mf* *pp*

S past my sim - ple shoe and

A past my sim - ple shoe and

T till the tide went

B till the tide went

23 *mp* *pp* *mp* *pp* *mp*

S past my a - pron, and my belt, and

A past my a - pron, and my belt, and

T past my a - - - - pron,

B past my a - - - - pron,

24

S past my bo - dice too,

A past my bo - dice too,

T past my bo - dice too,

B past my bo - dice too,

*pp*

*pp*

*poco*

25

*f*

*Red.* \* *Red.* \* *Red.* \* *Red.* \*

27

*p*

*Red.* \* *Red.* \* *Red.* \* *Red.* \*

29

*f*

*molto rall.*

*Red.* \* *Red.* \* *Red.* \* *Red.* \*

/ tempo *f*

31

S  
A  
T  
B

and  
*f*  
and  
*f*  
and  
*f*  
and

32

S  
A  
T  
B

made as he would eat me up as  
made as he would eat me up as  
made as he would eat me up as  
made as he would eat me up as



33

S  
A  
T  
B

who - - lly as a dew up - -

who - - lly as a dew up - -

who - - lly as a dew up - -

who - - lly as a dew up - - -

3/4 4/4

34

S  
A  
T  
B

on a dan - de - lion's sleeve, and

on a dan - de - lion's sleeve, and

on a dan - de - lion's sleeve,

on a dan - de - lion's sleeve,

4/4 4/4

35

S then I start - ed too.

A then I start - ed too.

36

*ffff*

38

*somewhat slower*

*dim. subito*

7

*Red.* \* *Red.* \* *Red.* \*

40 *mp*  
 S And he, he fol - lowed close be - hind, I  
*mp*  
 A And he, he fol - lowed close be - hind, I  
*mp*  
 T And he fol - lowed be hind,  
*mp*  
 B And he fol - lowed be hind,  
*p* *f* *sub. p*  
 Red. \* Red. \* Red. \* Red. \* Red. \* Red. \*

42 *mf*  
 S felt his sil - ver heel up - on my  
*mf*  
 A felt his sil - ver heel up - on my  
*mf*  
 T be - hind, be - - - -  
*mf*  
 B be - hind, be - - - -  
*poco mf* *f sub.*  
 Red. \* Red. \* Red. \* Red. \*

43 *f*

S an - kle, then my shoes would o - ver - flow with

A an - kle, then my shoes would o - ver - flow with

T - hind, then my shoes would o - ver -

B - hind, then my shoes would o - ver -

*Red.* \* *Red.* \* *Red.* \* *Red.* \* *Red.* \* *Red.* \*

45

S pearl, with

A pearl, with

T flow.

B flow.

*Red.* \* *Red.* \* *Red.* \* *Red.* \* *Red.* \*

46

S  
A

pearl.  
pearl.

9

Red. \*

47

11

Red.

48

11

fff

(Red.) \*

49

sub.  
p

ppp

3

Red. \*

51 *Sma*

*Red.* \*

*broaden*

53

*tempo*

55 *p*

S Un - til we met the so - lid town,

A *p*  
Un - til we met the so - lid town,

T *p*  
so - lid

B *p*  
so - lid

*mp*

*Red.* \* *Red.* \*

57

S no one he seemed to know, and, bow-ing, with a migh-ty

A no one he seemed to know, and, bow-ing, with a migh-ty

T town, seemed to know, a

B town, seemed to know, a

59

S look at me the sea with -

A look at me the sea with -

T migh - ty look at me.

B migh - ty look at me.

*rall. molto al fine* (♩ = ♩)

61

S  
-drew.

A  
-drew.

Red. \* Red. \*

(♩ = ♩) (♩ = ♩)

64

Red. \* Red. \* Red. \*

Brookline MA, January 16, 1997