

Voice

Softly As I Leave You

Giorgio Calabrese and Tony Da Vita, 1960

Arr. John Bachalis, 2017

Optional: SINGER, wearing overcoat, enters slowly from wings with suitcase (or Army duffelbag) in hand, puts it down near him, and prepares to sing.

Slowly, Smoothly **INTRO**

Flute Solo **2** Dm⁷ G⁷ Cmaj⁷ A⁷(b⁹) Dm⁷ G⁷ Em⁷(b⁵) A⁷ *poco rit.*

6 Dm⁷ G⁷(b⁹) *rit.* **7** C Dm⁷ G⁷ C Dm⁷ G⁷

Soft - ly_____ I will leave you soft - ly_____ For my heart would

11 C F C Dm⁷ G⁷

break_____ if you should wake_____ and see me go._____ So I leave you

15 Eb Fm⁷ Bb⁷ Eb Fm⁷ Bb⁷

soft - ly Long be-fore you miss me, Long be-fore your

19 Eb Ab Gm⁷ Fm⁷ G⁷

arms beg me to stay_____ for one more hour_____ or one more

23 C Dm⁷ G⁷ C Dm G⁷ Am Am⁷ F

day._____ Af ter all the years_____ I can't bear the tears to fall so

29 Ab Fm⁷ C Dm⁷ G⁷

softl - ly_____ As I leave you there._____

During instrumental interlude, **SINGER** picks up suitcase and moves to other side of stage, maybe to a bus stop bench, and prepares to sing again.

33 **33** C Tacet Dm⁷ G⁷ C Dm⁷ G⁷ C F Cmaj⁷

(Instrumental)

40 Dm⁷ tacet G⁷ **41** Eb Fm⁷ Bb⁷ Eb

(VOCAL OPT.)

So I leave you soft - ly Long be - fore you miss me,

44 Fm⁷ Bb⁷ Eb Ab Gm⁷

Long be - fore your arms beg me to stay For one more hour

48 Fm⁷ G⁷ **49** C Dm⁷ G⁷ C

ADD VOCAL

or one more day Af - ter all the years

52 Dm G⁷ Am Am⁷ F **55** Ab Fm⁷

I can't bear the tears to fall so soft - ly As I leave you

57 C Dm⁷ G⁷ C Dm⁷ G⁷ ten. C

Slower. **Much Slower.** **Slow tempo**

there, As I leave you there, as I leave you there.

mf *rit.*

63 Dm⁷ G⁺⁹ Cmaj⁷ A^{7(b9)} Dm⁷ G⁷ Em^{7(b5)} A⁷ Dm⁷ G^{7(b9)} C^(add2)

Slower and slower

SINGER picks up his suitcase (or Army duffelbag), takes a few steps toward the wings, half glances back toward the other side of the stage, then turns and slowly exits before the music stops.