

Scene Twelve:

12

I Can Do Better Than That

(Cathy)

Music and lyrics by
Jason Robert Brown

Measures 1-4 of the piano introduction. The key signature is D major (two sharps). The time signature is common time (C). The piano part is marked *f* (forte) and includes the instruction (w/Gtr.) in measures 1-2. The guitar part enters in measure 3 with the instruction +Vc. 1. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, with some beamed sixteenth notes in measure 4.

Measures 5-8 of the piano introduction. The piano part continues with a steady eighth-note accompaniment. The melody in the right hand features a mix of eighth and quarter notes, with a triplet of eighth notes in measure 8.

Measures 9-12 of the piano introduction. Measure 9 is marked with a box containing the number 9. The piano part is marked *mp* (mezzo-piano) and includes the instruction +Bs. in measure 9. The vocal line begins in measure 9 with the lyrics: "My best friend had a lit - tle sit - u - a - tion at the end of her sen - ior year,_____". The piano accompaniment continues with a steady eighth-note pattern. A triplet of eighth notes is marked in measure 10.

Measures 13-16 of the piano introduction. Measure 13 is marked with a box containing the number 13. The vocal line continues with the lyrics: "And like a shot, she and Mitch-ell got mar-ried that sum - mer." The piano accompaniment continues with a steady eighth-note pattern. The piano part is marked *mf* (mezzo-forte) and includes the instruction (+Stgs.) in measure 15. The piano part features a mix of eighth and quarter notes, with a triplet of eighth notes in measure 16.

17

Ca-rol-ann get-tin' big - ger ev - 'ry mi - nute, think - in', "What am I do - in' here?"

mp

21

While Mitch-ell's out ev - 'ry night be-in' a hea-vy me - tal drum - mer. They got a

(+Stgs.)

25

lit - tle cute house on a lit - tle cute street With a cru - ci - fix on the door,

(Gtr.)

mf Pno.

29

Mitch-ell got a job at a re-cord store in the mall. Just the

33

ty - pi - cal facts of a ty - pi - cal life in a town on the East - ern shore. I

37

thought a - bout what I wan - ted, It was - n't like that at all... Made

(as written)

mp

(Gtr./Vc. 1)

(Bs.)

41

Ca - rol - ann a cute ba - by sweat - er, think - in' "I can do bet - ter than

44

"I wasn't paying attention, what exit was that? All right, so we'll be there soon. Are you hungry?

that."

mf

48 Sick of me yet? Anyway..."

(Vln./Vc. 1) *fp* *f*

52

In a year or so, I moved to the ci-ty, think-in', "What have I got to lose?"

mp (Bs.)

56

Got a room, got a cat, and got twen-ty pounds thin-ner.

(Vln.) (Vc./Bs.)

60

Met a guy in a class I was ta-king who, you might say, looked like Tom Cruise.

3

64

He would-n't leave me a - lone 'less I went with him to din-ner. And I

(Tutti)

68

guess he was cute, and I guess he was sweet, and I guess he was good in bed: I

(Gtr.)

mf Pno.

72

gave up my life for the bet-ter part of a year. So I'm

76

start-ing to think_ that this may - be might work, and the se-cond it en-tered my_ head,_ He

80

need - ed to take — some time — off, Fo - cus on his “ca - reer.” He —

(as written)

mp

84

— blew me off with a heart - felt let - ter, I thought, “I can do bet - ter than —

mf

87

that.” You don't

f

89

have to get — a hair - cut, You don't have to change your shoes, — You don't

legato

mp

(Bs.)

93
have to like Du - ran Du - ran, just love me. You don't

97
have to put the seat down, You don't have to watch the news, You don't

101
have to learn to tan - go, You don't have to eat pro - sciut - to, You don't
crisper *cresc. poco a poco*

105
have to change a thing, Just stay with me!
(Stgs. 8vb) *loco*

The musical score is written for Piano/Conductor. It consists of five systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is G major (one sharp) and the time signature is 4/4. The systems are numbered 93, 97, 101, and 105. The lyrics are in English and Italian. The piano accompaniment includes chords, arpeggios, and triplets. The vocal line has lyrics in English and Italian. The score includes performance instructions like 'crisper', 'cresc. poco a poco', and 'loco'.

109

111

I want you and you and no-thing but you, Mi-

(Pno. Tacet)

Play

113

les and pi-les of you Fi-nal-ly I'll have some-thing worth-while to think of each-

117

mor-ning: You and you and no-thing but you! No-

121

sub-sti-tu-tion will do, No-thing but fresh, un-di-lu-ted and pure, Top of the

125

line, _____ And to - tal - ly _____

129

mine! _____

133

I don't need an - y life - time com - mit - ments, I don't need to get hitched to - night, _____

137

I don't want you to throw up all your walls _____ and _____ de - fens - es.

141

mp

I don't mean to put on an - y pres-sure, but I know when a thing is right, ____

145

And I spend ev - 'ry day ____ re - con - fig - u - ring my ____ sens - es. ____ When we ____

149

get to my house, take a look at that ____ town, ____ Take a look at how far ____ I've ____ gone I will ____

153

ne - ver go back, ____ ne - ver look back a - ny - more. ____ And it feels ____

157

— like my life led right— to your side— and will keep me there— from now— on.

(8^{va})

161

Think a-bout what you— wan - ted, Think a-bout what could be, —

loco

mp

165

Think a-bout how— I— love— you— and say— you'll move in with— me.

169

Think of what's great a-bout me and you,— Think— of the bull - shit we've both been through, Think.

mf

3

173

of what's past, be-cause we can do Bet-ter!

(Stgs.)

f

8^{va}

177

We can do bet-ter!

(8^{va})

181

We can do bet-ter than that!

(8^{va})

183 (Stgs.)

loco

ff

185

We can do bet-ter than that!

8^{va} (l.v.)

sfz w/Crotales (Vc. 2.)