

As Recorded by BILLY JOEL on COLUMBIA Records

Just The Way You Are

For 3-Part Mixed Voices (SAB) with Piano,
Guitar, Percussion and Electric Bass

Performance Notes:

Rhythm and tempo are the primary challenges in this arrangement. Rehearse slowly, counting each eighth note. Later, when playing up to tempo, keep all accompaniment light, crisp and precise. All rhythm in voices should not sound forced. Keep legato and phrase accordingly to the lyrics. It is preferred that an acoustic steel string guitar be used rather than the electric guitar.

E.L.

Arranged by
ED LOJESKI

Words and Music by
BILLY JOEL

Performance time: approx. 3:27

Moderately ($\text{♩} = 126$)
(Guitar tacet)

Guitar

Piano *mf*

Electric Bass

Percussion S.D. (Brushes)
B.D.



5 Soprano *mp*

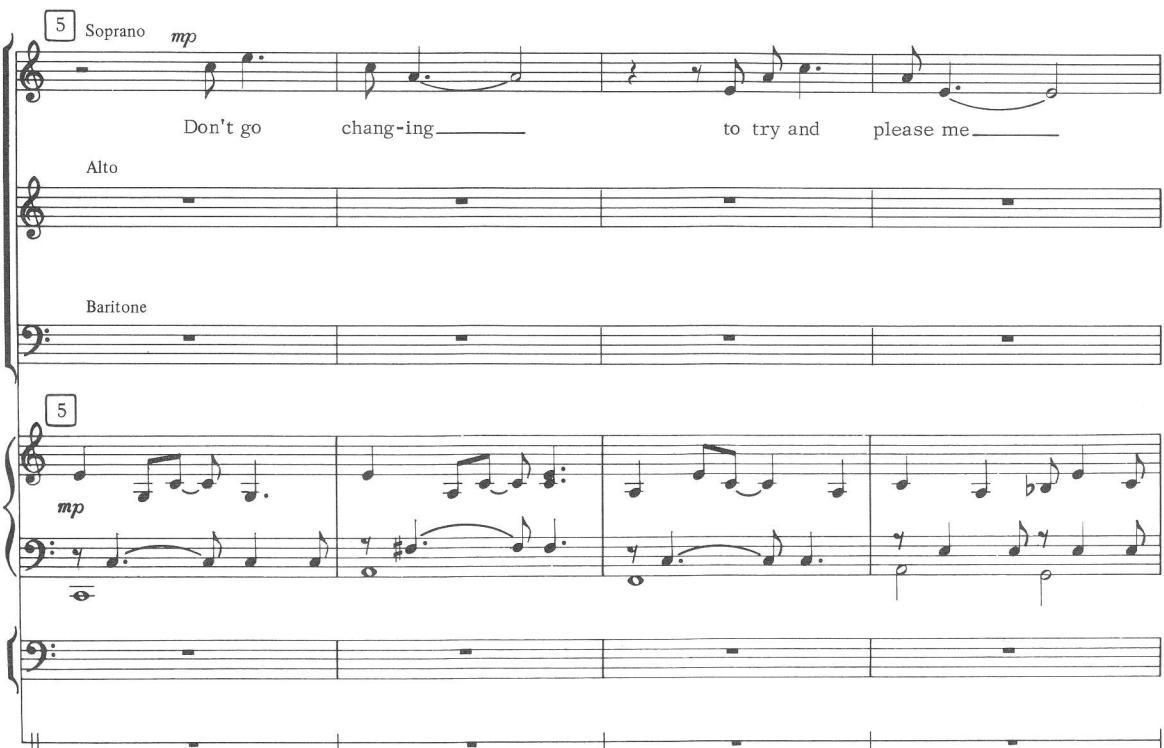
Don't go chang-ing——— to try and please me———

Alto

Baritone

5

mp



you nev - er let me down__ be - fore.

Mm

Don't im - a - gine__ you're too fa - mil - iar__

mf

and I don't see you any more I —

cresc.

21

would not leave you in times of

I won't leave you,

I won't leave you,

(Guitar enter double-time feeling)

21 C Am6 Fmaj7

mf

mf

(Light Brushes on Snare Drum – Bossa Nova-rock feeling) >

trou - ble _____ we nev - er could have come_ this far_

leave you in trou - ble _____

leave you in trou - ble _____

Am C7/G Fmaj7 Fm

cresc.

Mm _____ I took the good_

mf cresc. f

Mm _____ I took the good_

mf cresc. f

Mm _____ I took the good_

C/E Gm7 C7 Fmaj7

cresc. f

cresc. f

— times, — I'll take the bad times, —

— times, —

— times, —

Fm6 C/E Am7

I'll take you just the way you are.

I'll take you just the way you are.

I'll take you just the way you are.

Dm7 F/G C (hold - no rhythm) C (hold - no rhythm)

39

f

I need to know that you will al-

mf

Oo _____

mf

Oo _____

C (hold-no rhythm) C (hold-no rhythm) 39 F (resume rhythm) G

decresc. *mf*

decresc. *mf* (S.D.)

- ways be _____ the same old some-
cresc. *f*
you'll al-ways be _____ some-
cresc. *f*
you'll al-ways be _____ some-

Em7 A7 Dm7

cresc.

cresc.

one that I knew... Oh what will it take...
(Melody) ff
 one that I knew... Oh what will it take...
(Melody) ff
 one that I knew... Oh what will it take...

G C C/Bb Ab
f cresc. *ff*
f cresc. *ff*

till you be - lieve in me the way that I
 till you be - lieve in me
 till you be - lieve in me

Bb Gm7 C C7 Fm7 (*hold-no rhythm*)
decrec. *f*
decrec. *f* *(Cym.)*

decresc.

55

— be - lieve — in you. I said I

mp

Oo

N.C.

F/G (*hold-no rhythm*)

55 C (*resume rhythm*)

decresc. *mp* *cresc.* *mf*

mp *cresc.* > (Toms) *mf* > (S.D.)

love you— and that's for - ev - er— and this I
mp
 Oh _____ Ah _____
 — Oh _____ Ah _____
 Am6 Fmaj7 Am C7/G Fmaj7

promise from the heart — Mm — I could not love —
 I could not love — I could not love — I could not love —
 Fm C/E Gm7 C7 Fmaj7

cresc.
 — you — an - y better. — I love you just —
 cresc.
 — you — an - y better. — I love you just —
 cresc.
 — you — an - y better. — I love you just —

Fm6 C/E Am7 Dm7

the way you are.

the way you are.

the way you are.

F/G C (hold-no rhythm) C (hold-no rhythm) C (hold-no rhythm)

73

C (hold-no rhythm) 73 C (resume rhythm) Am6 Fmaj7

f Solo

(R.S.) f (S.D.)

p

Oo _____

Oo _____

Oo _____

Am C⁷/G Fmaj7 Fm Fm6 C/E

pp

Mm _____

Mm _____

Mm _____

Gm7 B^b/C Fmaj7 B^b7 C/E

Three staves of vocal music for Soprano, Alto, and Bass. The vocal parts begin with sustained notes followed by "Ah" held notes. The piano accompaniment consists of chords in Am7, C6/D, D9, and Fmaj7/G.

Vocal Lines:

- Soprano: Three sustained notes followed by a long "Ah" note.
- Alto: Two sustained notes followed by a long "Ah" note.
- Bass: One sustained note followed by a long "Ah" note.

Piano Accompaniment Chords:

- Am7
- C6/D
- D9
- Fmaj7/G

Text: I don't want clever conversa-

Measure 89: Crescendo, dynamic f.

Decrescendo (end Solo): decresc.

Drumming: (Toms) (Cym.) (S.D.)

Chords: C, Am6, F7

- tion I nev- er want to work that
mf
 Oo
mf
 Oo

Am C7/G Fmaj7 Fm

decrec.
 hard Mm *mf*
decrec.
decrec.
 Mm

C/E Gm7 C7 Fmaj7 (*no rhythm*)

some-one — that I can talk to —

Fm6 (no rhythm) C/E (no rhythm) Am7 (no rhythm)

cresc.

103

I want you just — the way — you are.

Ah

Ah

Dm7 (no rhythm) F/G Ab maj7 (resume rhythm)

(Toms) (Cym.) (S.D.)

The musical score consists of two systems of music. The top system features three staves: Soprano (G clef), Alto (C clef), and Bass (F clef). The piano accompaniment is provided by two staves below. The first system concludes with a dynamic instruction "decresc." above the vocal entries. The second system begins with a piano harmonic progression: B♭ major (B♭, D, F), G minor 7 (G, B♭, D, F), and C7 (C, E, G, B♭). The vocal parts enter with sustained notes, followed by a rhythmic pattern of eighth and sixteenth notes. The piano part continues with a steady eighth-note bass line. The vocal entries are marked with "Oh" and "Oo". The piano part includes dynamic markings "rit.", "p", and "slowly" over the harmonic changes. The bass staff in the second system also includes a dynamic marking "rit. e dim." and a performance instruction "(Cym. roll)" with a cymbal icon.