

# The Last Flower

Steve Smythe

Freely

Piano

*f* *mp*

5

10

14

*p* *f*

Leo. \*

Here's the story: in spring of 1979 my high school drama class was performing *The Thurber Carnival*, which was a set of sketches written in 1945 by James Thurber, with accompanying music. I was the pianist. One of the short plays, a monologue called *The Last Flower*, came with no music, so I composed this piece to accompany it. This score is a sketch of the original piece, which I modified night by night to match the action and timings.

# The Last Flower

18

*mf*

21

24

*f*

26

*f*

28

*pp*

*f*

The musical score is written for piano in a key with three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and a 3/4 time signature. It consists of five systems of two staves each. The first system (measures 18-20) features a melody in the right hand with eighth and sixteenth notes, and a bass line in the left hand with eighth notes. A mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic marking is present. The second system (measures 21-23) continues the melodic and harmonic development. The third system (measures 24-25) introduces a forte (*f*) dynamic, with the right hand playing chords and the left hand playing a rhythmic pattern. The fourth system (measures 26-27) maintains the forte dynamic. The fifth system (measures 28-30) begins with a pianissimo (*pp*) dynamic in the right hand, which then shifts to forte (*f*) in the final measures, while the left hand continues with a steady eighth-note accompaniment.

# The Last Flower

31

*pp*

34

*ff*

37

*mp*

40

*ff*

*p*

44

*f*

Red.

\*