

Blue Monk

Abbey Lincoln Key

Abbey Lincoln

Thelonious Monk

Medium Slow Blues [Thelonious Monk 1954] ($\text{♩} = 90$)

A musical score for piano or organ. The key signature is A-flat major (three flats). The tempo is indicated as Medium Slow Blues with a quarter note equal to 90. The score consists of four measures. Measure 1 starts with an A-flat 7th chord (A-flat, C, E-flat, G) followed by a bass note C. Measures 2 and 3 show a repeating pattern of chords: D-flat 7th (D-flat, F, A-flat, C), A-flat 7th (A-flat, C, E-flat, G), and A-flat 7th again. Measure 4 ends with an A-flat 7th chord.

A continuation of the musical score. Measure 5 begins with a D-flat 7th chord (D-flat, F, A-flat, C). Measures 6 and 7 show a repeating pattern of chords: D 7th (D, F-sharp, A, C), A-flat 7th (A-flat, C, E-flat, G), and A-flat 7th again. Measure 8 ends with an A-flat 7th chord.

A continuation of the musical score. Measure 9 begins with a B-flat major 7th chord (B-flat, D, F-sharp, A) followed by a bass note C. Measures 10 and 11 show a repeating pattern of chords: E-flat 7th (E-flat, G, B-flat, D), A-flat 7th (A-flat, C, E-flat, G), and A-flat 7th again. Measure 12 ends with an E-flat 7th chord.

Bottom line is melody

Goin' alone, life is your own, but the cost sometimes is dear.
Bein' complete, knowin' defeat, keepin' on from year to year.
It takes some doin'.
Monkery's the blues you hear, keepin' on from year to year.

Life is a school, 'less you're a fool, but the learnin' brings you pain.
Knowin' at once you're just a dunce, trial and error, loss and gain.
It takes some doin'.

Monkery's a slow, slow train, trial and error, loss and gain.

Findin' your one, place in the sun, doesn't come the easy way.
Shallow ain't deep, nothin' is cheap, measured by the dues you pay.
It takes some doin'.
Monkery's a blue highway, measured by the dues you pay.