

Lush Life

Standard Key

Billy Strayhorn

Ballad [Nat King Cole 1949] ($\text{♩} = 68$)

A1

Verse

The musical score consists of two staves of music. The top staff starts with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat, and a time signature of common time. It features chords D♭⁶, B⁷, D♭MA⁷, and B⁷. The lyrics "I used to vis-it all the ver-y gay plac-es, those come-what-" are written below the notes. The bottom staff continues with chords D♭MA⁷, B⁷, D♭MA⁷, E♭MI⁷, EMA⁷, and G♭MI⁷.

may plac-es where one re-lax-es on the ax-is of the

This section continues the melody with chords A♭MI⁷, D⁷, D♭⁶, D⁹(#11), D♭MA⁷, and D⁹(#11). The lyrics "wheel of life to get the feel of life from jazz and cocktails. The" are provided.

A2

8 D♭⁶ B⁷ D♭MA⁷ B⁷

This section begins with chords D♭⁶, B⁷, D♭MA⁷, and B⁷. The lyrics "girls I knew had sad and sul-len gray fac-es with dis-tin-" are followed by a repeat sign.

10 D♭MA⁷ B⁷ D♭MA⁷ E♭MI⁷ EMA⁷ G♭MI⁷

This section continues with chords D♭MA⁷, B⁷, D♭MA⁷, E♭MI⁷, EMA⁷, and G♭MI⁷. The lyrics "gué trac-es that used to be there, you could see where they'd been" are provided.

12 A♭MI⁷ D⁷ D♭⁶ D⁹(#11) D♭MA⁷ / GMI⁷(b5) C⁷

This section begins with chords A♭MI⁷, D⁷, D♭⁶, D⁹(#11), D♭MA⁷, and GMI⁷(b5). The lyrics "washed a-way by too man-y through the day; twelve o'-clock tales. Then" are followed by a repeat sign.

15 B FMI FMI⁶ FMI FMI GMI⁷(b5) C⁷

This section begins with a bass line (B) and chords FMI, FMI⁶, FMI, FMI⁷, FMI, GMI⁷(b5), and C⁷. The lyrics "you came a-long with your si-ren song to tempt me to mad-ness. I" are provided.

19 FMI FMI⁶ FMI FMI⁷ FMI

This section concludes with a bass line (FMI, FMI⁶, FMI, FMI⁷, FMI) and the lyrics "thought for a-while that your poignant smile was tinged with the sad-ness".

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C

22 E_bMI⁷ A_b⁷ B^{7(b5)} B_b⁷ E_bMI⁷
of a great love for me. Ah! Yes, I was wrong.

26 A^{7(b5)} E_bMI⁷⁽¹¹⁾ A_b⁷
A - gain, I was wrong.

A Refrain

29 D_b⁶ D⁷ D_b⁶ D⁷ / C^{7(b5)} B¹³ E_{MA}⁷ E_b^{7(#5)} D⁷
Life is lonely a - gain and on - ly last year ev'rything seemed so sure. Now

33 D_b⁶ D⁷ D_b⁶ D⁷ / D_b⁶ / D_b⁷ C¹³ F_{MA}⁷ / E^{7(#5)} E_b⁷
life is aw - ful a - gain, a troughful of hearts could only be a bore. A

B

37 A_b⁶ E_b^{7(#9)} A_b⁶ / E_{MI}⁷ A⁷ D / D_{MI}⁷ G⁷ C⁶ B⁷ B_b⁷ A⁷ A_b⁷
week in Paris will ease the bite of it, all I care is to smile in spite of it.

41 D_b⁶ D⁷ D_b⁶ D⁷ / D_b⁶ / C^{7(b5)} B⁷ B_b⁷
I'll for - get you, I will, while yet you are still burning inside my brain. Ro -

C

45 G_bMI⁹ B¹³ A^{9(#5)} A_b¹³ D_{MA}⁷ G_b¹³ F_{MI}⁷ B_b⁷
mance is mush, stifling those who strive, I'll live a lush life in some small dive, and

49 G_bMI⁹ B¹³ A^{9(#5)} A_b¹³ A^{7(#9)} A_b^{7(#9)} B_b^{7(#9)} B^{7(#9)} C^{7(#9)} D⁷ D_{MA}⁷
there I'll be while I rot with the rest of those whose lives are lone - ly too.