

# 26. The Café Song (Empty Chairs at Empty Tables)

MARIUS, recovering from his wounds,  
imagines he is back in the ABC Café

Moderato  $\text{♩} = 93$

MARIUS

A<sup>1</sup>

There's a grief that can't be spoken

*Ser.*

*p*

*Sl*

Mar There's a pain goes on and on— Empty chairs at empty tables Now my

Mar friends are dead and gone. Here they talked of revo - lution

A<sup>2</sup>

*Gr.*

Mar

Here it was they lit the flame\_ Here they sang about 'tomorrow' And to-

The first system of the musical score consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is written in a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are: "Here it was they lit the flame\_ Here they sang about 'tomorrow' And to-". The piano accompaniment is written in two staves (treble and bass clefs) and features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the right hand and a more active bass line in the left hand.

*Piu B mosso*

Mar

- mor - row nev - er came. From the table in the

The second system continues the musical score. The vocal line has the lyrics: "- mor - row nev - er came. From the table in the". The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic pattern, showing some harmonic changes in the bass line.

Mar

corner They could see a world re - born\_ And they rose with voi - ces

The third system of the score features the lyrics: "corner They could see a world re - born\_ And they rose with voi - ces". The piano accompaniment includes a dynamic marking of *mf* and a performance instruction: "+ Hns, Tbn." at the end of the system.

Mar

ringing And I can hear them now, The very words that they had

The final system on the page has the lyrics: "ringing And I can hear them now, The very words that they had". The piano accompaniment features a dynamic marking of *f* and includes a performance instruction: "+ Trp." above the staff.

*rall.*

Mar

sung Be - came their last communion On the lonely barri -

*Tempo primo* C

Mar

- cade at dawn. Oh my friends, my friends forgive me

The ghosts of those who died on the barricade appear

Mar

That I live and you are gone. — There's a grief that can't be spoken There's a

*Piu mosso* D

Mar

pain goes on and on. Phantom faces at the window

Mar. *Phantom shadows on the floor, — Empty chairs at empty tables Where my*

Mar. *friends will meet no more. Oh my friends, my friends don't ask me*

*accel. rall. E Più mosso*

+ Hrs, Tbn, Timp, Drs.

Mar. *the ghosts fade away* *rall. molto*

*What your sacrifice was for. — Empty chairs at empty tables Where my*

*dim. molto p*

Mar. *friends will sing no more.*

*rall. Tempo primo rall.*

*Gr. Ob.*

+ Str.