

THE TALE OF THE OYSTER

From "Fifty Million Frenchmen"

Words and Music by
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Slowly

f *rall.* *p*

The piano introduction is in 4/4 time, starting with a forte (*f*) dynamic. It features a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The tempo is marked 'Slowly' and 'rall.' (rallentando). The dynamics transition from *f* to *rall.* and finally to *p* (piano).

Moderately slow, rubato

mp

Chords: Eb Eb+ Fm9 Bb9 Bb7 Eb Ebmaj7/Bb

Down by the sea lived a lone - some oys - ter, Ev - 'ry day get - ting

The first system of the song features a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The tempo is 'Moderately slow, rubato'. The piano part is marked *mp* (mezzo-piano). The key signature has two flats (Bb and Eb) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 'Down by the sea lived a lone - some oys - ter, Ev - 'ry day get - ting'.

Chords: Fm9 Fm7 Abm/Bb Eb Eb+ Fm9 Bb9

sad - der and moist - er. He found his home life aw - f'ly wet And

The second system continues the vocal and piano accompaniment. The piano part continues with chords: Fm9, Fm7, Abm/Bb, Eb, Eb+, Fm9, Bb9. The lyrics are: 'sad - der and moist - er. He found his home life aw - f'ly wet And'.

$E\flat 6$ (no $B\flat$) $E\flat 7$ $A\flat maj 7$ $C 7/G$ $F 7$ $B\flat 9$ $E\flat$ $A\flat 6$

longed to trav - el with the up - per set, — Poor lit - tle oys - ter!

rall.

$E\flat$ $B\flat 9+$ $E\flat$ $E\flat+$ $F m 9$ $B\flat 9+$ $B\flat 7+$

Fate was kind to that oys - ter, we know, When

a tempo
mp

$E\flat$ $E\flat maj 7/B\flat$ $F m 9$ $F m 7$ $A\flat m/B\flat$ $E\flat$ $E\flat+$

one day the chef from the Park Ca - si - no Saw that oys - ter

$F m 9$ $B\flat 9$ $E\flat 6$ (no $B\flat$) $E\flat 7$ $A\flat maj 7$ $C 7/G$ $F 7$ $B\flat 9$

ly - ing there And said, "I'll put — you on my bill of fare."

E \flat Ab6 E \flat Gm Am7-5 Gm/B \flat

Luck - y lit - tle oys - ter! See him on his

rall. *mf a tempo*

Cm7 D+ Gm Am7-5 Gm/B \flat Cm F7

sil - ver plat - ter Watch - ing the queens of fash - ion chat - ter,

Gm Am7-5 Gm/B \flat Cm7 B \flat E \flat 6 (no B \flat) E \flat 7 3

Hear - ing the wives of mil - lion - aires Dis - cuss their mar - ria-ges and their

Ab6 Ab6-5 Gsus G Slowly C6 G

love af - fairs. Thrilled lit - tle oys - ter!

rall. *mf mp f*

Moderately slow

C Am Dm7 G7 C Am Dm7 G9 G7

See that bi - valve so - cial climb - er Feed - ing the rich Mrs. — Hog - gen - heim - er;

mf

C Am F Dm6/F E F6 C/E F6 Dm6/F E

Think of his joy as he gai - ly glides Down to the mid - dle of her gild - ed in - sides.

rall.

Slowly Moderately slow

E A6 E A Dm6/A Am Dm6/A

Proud lit - tle oys - ter! Af - ter lunch — Mrs. — H. com - plains — And

mp

Am G F E Am Dm6/A

says to her hos - tess, "I've got such pains! I came to town — on my

Am Fm6/A \flat C/G F6 C/E Am F6 F6-5 E

yacht to - day, — But I think I'd bet - ter hur - ry back to Oys - ter Bay."

rall.

Slowly E A6 E Moderately slow Am Dm6/A

Scared lit - tle oys - ter! Off they go — thru the

mp

Am Dm6/A Am G F E

trou - bled tide, The yacht roll - ing mad - ly from side to side. They've

Am Dm6/A Am F6/A \flat C/G Fm6

tossed a - bout — till that poor young oys - ter Finds that it's time he should

cresc. poco a poco

G F6/Ab C/G Tacet Fm9 Bb7 (add G)

quit his clois - ter. Up comes the oys - ter!

rall.

Slowly Eb Eb+ Abmaj7/Eb Bb9 Eb Ebmaj7/Bb

Back once more where he start - ed from, He mur - mured, "I have-n't a

mp

Abmaj7/Eb Ab6/Bb Abm/Bb Eb Eb+ Abmaj7/Eb Bb9

sin - gle qualm, For I've had a taste of so - ci - e - ty, And so -

Eb6 (no 3rd) C/Bb Fm/Ab C/G Fm Slower Eb Ab6 Eb

ci - e - ty has had a taste of me." Wise lit - tle oys - ter! *8va--?*

pp