

Song 11: Before You

(Nicholas, Gregory)

Michael Johnson

Nicholas: Let me tell you the real reason I never answered your letters.

Romantic (♩ = c. 120)

Nicholas

Nicholas

WITH - OUT YOU IN MY LIFE IT'S BEEN PA - RA - DISE, PA - RA - DISE,

Piano

f

Ni

EVE - RY - THING I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE. NO - ONE TO FEED OR TO GIVE AD - VICE;

Pno.

p

Red. *

DIALOG

Ni

PEACE - FUL AND GRE - - - GO - RY FREE.

Pno.

Red. *

Gregory: Don't drag Dad into this.

Nicholas: You worshipped him and you didn't even know him.

Nicholas: Because I knew you could never do it. You have no spine. Just like

Up (M.M. ♩ = c. 160)

Ni

MY FA - THER. BE - FORE YOU SAINT QUITE HIT THE

Pno.

mp *f*

16

Ni

BOT - TLE EVE - RY NIGHT. HIT MY MO - THER AND I BY

Pno.

20

Ni

DAY. HE HAD HIS OWN PER - VERSE LIT - TLE

Pno.

24

Ni

WAY WITH EVE - RY NURSE. HE TOOK THE LA - DIES' TEMP - RA - TURES IN

Pno.

Broadly

28

Ni

MOST PE - CU - LIAR WAYS. IF YOU THINK HE WAS A GOOD SU - ME - RI - TAN, LIV - ING

Pno.

mp

32

Ni

LIFE A - CCORD - ING TO GOD'S PLAN. IF YOU THINK HE HAD A HEART MADE OF SO - LID GOLD, WELL, YOU

Pno.

36

Ni REA - LLY DID - NT KNOW THE MAN. BE - FORE YOU DOC - TOR

Pno.

40

Ni QUITE WAS OF - TEN OUT ALL NIGHT. MA - KING HOUSE - CALLS OF A

Pno.

44

Ni DU - BI - OUS BRAND. — IF YOU THINK FA - THER THE -

Pno.

48

Ni RE - - SA IS RE - STING IN PEACE, WELL YOU REA - LLY —

Pno.

52

Ni DID - NT KNOW THE MAN.

Pno.

57

Ni

Pno.

p

NOW WHAT

61

Ni

Pno.

mf

LIT - TLE HEART HE HAS STARTS BEA - TING. AND BE - FORE YOU KNOW IT NOW IT'S

64

Ni

Pno.

f

BLEE - DING! AND TO MAKE UP FOR EVE - RY THING HE PUT US

68

Ni

Pno.

THROUGH, THE CRA - ZY OLD MAN A - DOPTS YOU! YOU!

73

Ni

Pno.

p

Ad. * *Ad.* * *Ad.* *

YOU. ALL AT ONCE OLD QUITE CHANG - ES SPOTS O - VER NIGHT, GI - VING YOU THE BOY - HOOD I NE - VER

Tempo I

78

Ni

HAD. HE READS SOME STO - RIES, TUCKS YOU IN, PLAYS SOME GAMES LET'S YOU

Pno.

Lead *

82

Ni

WIN, AND SUD - DEN - LY HE'S SU - - - PER DAD.

Pno.

86

Gregory

Intense

HE WAS SO MUCH MORE. YOUR RE - SENT - MENT IS - N'T FAIR. I KNOW YOU WERE THE NE - GLEC - TED

Pno.

mf

90

Gr

SON. I'VE AL - WAYS FELT SO BAD FOR THE THINGS HE DID, BUT THE PAST IS THE PAST. FOR -

Pno.

94

Gr

GIVE HIM AND MOVE ON. BUT IN - STEAD YOU WASTE YOUR EF - FORT *simile* BLA - MING HIM. FOR THE WAY YOUR LIFE TURNED

Pno.

f

Lead * *Lead* * *pedal simile*

98

Gr. OUT. YOU SPEND ALL YOUR EN - ER - GY SLAM - MING HIM, WHEN THERE'S REA - LLY MORE TO HIM THAN

Pno.

102

Gr. THAT. THOUGH IT MAKES YOU CRINGE, PEO - PLE CHANGE! THEY CAN

Pno.

106

Gr. O - VER - COME THEIR PRE - VI - OUS SINS. HE START - ED DOWN THE PATH TO GOOD WHEN HE TOOK IN AN OR - PHAN KID. I FOR

Pno.

VAMP

Nicholas: Yes, he treated you as if you grew on his own family tree: Waited on you hand and foot. Spoiled you like a **baby**.

110

Gr. ONE OWE MY LIFE TO THE MAN.

Pno.

115 Nicholas

Ni "STOP THAT RA - CKET GRE-GO-RY IS TRY-ING TO SLEEP!" "WATCH YOUR MOUTH! GRE-GO-RY IS STAR-TING TO

Gr

Pno. *p* *cresc.*

Lea * *Lea* * *Lea* * *Lea* * *Lea* *

120

Ni WEEPI!"

Gr **Gregory** BE - CAUSE YOU TOOK AD - VAN - TAGE.

YOU WERE SO CRUEL TO ME. WE DO WHAT WE CAN TO SUR -

Pno. *f* *ff* *pedal simile*

Lea * *Lea* * *Lea* * *pedal simile*

124

Ni YOU DID NO-THING WHILE MY FA - THER, MY FA - MILY KEPT YOU A - LIVE.

Gr VIVE. WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE,

Pno. *p*

Lea * *Lea* * *Lea* *

128

Ni CIR - CUM - STANC - ES? EVE - RY - ONE HAS CIR-CUM-STANC - ES! SOME ARE MUCH WORSE OFF AND

Gr GI VEN MY _ CIR CUM - STANC - ES...

Pno. *f* *ff* *pedal simile*

Lea * *Lea* * *Lea* * *pedal simile*

132

Ni

YET WE O - VER - COME - LOOK AT ME. LOOK AT ME: A LONE - LY BOY.

Pno.

mp

ped. *

136

Ni

FA - THERED BY DE - BAU - CHE - RY AND DRINK. YET I TURNED OUT THE OP - PO - SITE OF WHAT YOU MIGHT

Pno.

cresc.

ped. * *pedal simile*

140

Ni

THINK. I BE - CAME RE - SOURCE - FUL, CHAR - MING, IN - DE - PEND - ENT, A SELF - SUF - FIC - IENT MAN. RE -

Pno.

ff

Gregory: Independent? You live off his money! Don't make me laugh.
 You switched wills on him when he was sick with no relief.
 You tricked him! He died thinking he'd left you nothing.
 If you call that independence, respensence, **you're wrong.**

VAMP

144

Ni

FIN - ED AND RE SPLEN - DENT. WELL

Pno.

p

last time cresc.

147

Ni

LIS - TEN TO YOU. PURE AS MOR - NING DEW. THE VOICE OF REA - SON, OF GOOD - NESS, OF RIGHT. HAD I NOT TRICKED THAT SWINE, HAD I

Pno.

f

mp

152

Ni NOT MADE HIM SIGN, SOME NURSE WOULD BE DRINK-ING HIS MON- EY TO NIGHT. YOU SHOULD THANK ME, JE- SUS

Pno. *cresc.*

156

Ni QUITE. I SPENT MOST OF IT SUP- PORT - ING YOU. BUT WHEN I'D HAD IT WITH

Pno. *ff*

160

Ni HOST - ING A PA - - RA - SITE. I KNEW WHAT I

Pno.

164

Ni NEED - ED TO DO...

Pno.

Gregory: What? Kill me?
Nicholas: Kill you? I wanted to hurt you.

169

Ni THE ON - LY JUSTICE DUE TO A MAN LIKE YOU, WHO FLOATS THROUGH LIFE LIKE A BAG ON A

Pno. *mp*

pedal simile

173

Ni

BREEZE, IS TO FORCE YOU TO FEND FOR YOUR - SELF, FOR IN THE END, IF THAT DOES - N'T KILL YOU IT'LL

Pno.

Tempo I

177

Ni

BRING YOU TO YOUR KNEES. IT'S BEEN SIX MONTHS SINCE YOU FLEW FROM YOUR FOR - MER LIFE AND WHERE DO I

Pno.

mf

181

Ni

FIND YOU? NEA - RLY WAS - TED A - WAY WAIT - ING FOR ME _____ TO

Pno.

f

185

Ni

COME AND SAVE YOU FROM THIS WRET - - - CHED SLUM.

Pno.

189 **Nicholas**
Ni I KNEW ALL A - - - LONE, OUT HERE ON YOUR
Gr NO, YOU'RE WRONG! I'VE
Pno. *ff*

193
Ni OWN, YOU WOULD - NT LAST A SING - LE DAY.
Gr MADE IT THIS FAR ON MY OWN!
Pno.

197
Ni WHY GO THROUGH THE STRESS, WHEN IT'S FAR LESS OF A
Gr I'M STILL HERE DE -
Pno.

201
Ni MESS JUST TO LET YOU DIE SLOW - LY TRYING TO MAKE YOUR OWN
Gr SPITE HOW MUCH YOU WANT ME GONE!
Pno.

205

Ni

Gr

Pno.

WAY. WELL THEN GOOD -

I DON'T NEED YOU! I DON'T NEED YOU. I DON'T NEED YOU!

cresc.

209

NICHOLAS turns to leave.

Ni

Gr

Pno.

BYE, GOOD LUCK, GRE - GO - RY.

DON'T YOU WALK A - WAY. DON'T TURN YOUR BACK ON ME. WHERE ARE YOU

fff

213

Ni

Gr

Pno.

BACK TO MY NEW LIFE. ... WHERE AF - FA - BLE A - MAN - DA WAITS ON A VE - RAN - DA FOR

GO - ING?

subito p *cresc.*

217

Ni

Gr

Pno.

ME TO PLAY POOL BOY TO HER NE - GLECT - ED WIFE. THERE A TOP THE SOC - IAL - ITE LAD - DER. I HAVE

f

221

Ni
EV - ERY THING THAT REA - LLY MAT - TERS: SEX, MO - NEY, ART, POP - U -

Pno.

Music stops as GREGORY throws himself at NICHOLAS...

225

Ni
A - RI - TY! JUST LIKE YOU USED MY FA - - - MI - LY.

Gr
YOU USED ME. YOU USED ME.

Pno.

Nicholas: You will not!

Heavy, clipped, intense

Nicholas

232

Ni
IN CASE YOU MISSED IT, YOU DON'T EX - IST. YOU BLEW YOUR - SELF AND A GAL - LERY SKY

Pno.

236

Ni
HIGH. YOU'RE DE - CEASED, SLAIN, IN - ERT, PUSH - ING DAI - SIES THROUGH THE DIRT. IF YOU DARE TO SHOW YOUR FACE A - GAIN. FACE,

Pno.

240

Ni

MEET MY LIT - TLE FRIEND! HOLD STILL NOW _____ I SAID HOLD STILL NOW _____

Pno.

NICHOLAS swings the bottle at GREGORY, who manages to push him to the ground. NICHOLAS gets up and swings at him again.

244

Ni

GOOD - BYE!

Pno.

accel.

GREGORY, having leaped onto the low wall for safety, slips, loses his footing and falls over the edge out of sight. NICHOLAS stares after him, then, composing himself, walks to the table, uncorks the wine bottle, pours himself a glass, and turns to face the party goers, who by now are merrily crowding onto the roof. NORA can be seen among them. NICHOLAS turns to face them, and, as if nothing had happened, suddenly smiles brightly and opens his arms, striking a pose.

248

Nicholas: The party's up here people!

Black out.

Pno.

fff

attacca