

# If Only

Cathy Neff

Thoughtfully  $\text{♩} = 66$   
*rubato*

mp

Measures 1-4 of the piano introduction. The music is in 4/4 time with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The melody in the right hand features a series of eighth-note patterns, while the left hand provides a harmonic accompaniment with sustained chords.

5 *a tempo*  
*mf*

Measures 5-8 of the piano introduction. The tempo changes to *a tempo*. The melody continues with eighth-note patterns, and the left hand accompaniment becomes more active with eighth-note figures.

Joseph 9 *mf*

8 For man - y years I've walked a-lone, — for - bid - den by the Lord to show the

Measures 9-11 of the vocal and piano parts. The vocal line begins with the lyrics "For man - y years I've walked a-lone, — for - bid - den by the Lord to show the". The piano accompaniment continues with a steady eighth-note accompaniment.

Joseph 12

8 world what I've been shown. And e - ven if the world could see the things that I — have seen, my

12

Measures 12-15 of the vocal and piano parts. The vocal line continues with the lyrics "world what I've been shown. And e - ven if the world could see the things that I — have seen, my". The piano accompaniment features a more complex rhythmic pattern in the right hand.

NOTE: This piece has reference to Joseph Smith's desire to have witnesses to the plates, and his parents' concern when they see the burden that their son carries alone. See "History of Joseph Smith by His Mother, Lucy Mack Smith," pg. 152.

If Only

Joseph

15  
8

fear is that they still would not be - lieve. For man - y years I've car - ried this a - lone.

Joseph

18  
8

— For - bid - den by the Lord to show the things that I've been shown. But if

Joseph

21  
8

I could just have wit - ness-es, — if on - ly two or three, then they could stand and tes - ti - fy — with

Joseph

24  
8

me. If they could on - ly see — the things I've been giv - en. If they could

If Only

Joseph

on-ly see— the things I have seen. If they could on-ly see— then they could

8

27

3

3

3

Detailed description: This block contains the first system of music for Joseph, measures 27-30. It features a vocal line in the upper staff and a piano accompaniment in the lower two staves. The key signature has three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 8/8. The vocal line includes lyrics: "on-ly see— the things I have seen. If they could on-ly see— then they could". There are three triplet markings (indicated by a '3' above the notes) in the vocal line. The piano accompaniment consists of chords and moving lines in both hands.

Joseph

help me bear this bur - den. If they could on - ly see what I see.

8

30

*mf*

Detailed description: This block contains the second system of music for Joseph, measures 30-33. It features a vocal line in the upper staff and a piano accompaniment in the lower two staves. The key signature has three sharps and the time signature is 8/8. The vocal line includes lyrics: "help me bear this bur - den. If they could on - ly see what I see.". The piano accompaniment includes a dynamic marking of *mf* (mezzo-forte) in the right hand.

Detailed description: This block contains the piano accompaniment for measures 33-36. It consists of two staves (treble and bass clef) with chords and moving lines. The key signature has three sharps and the time signature is 8/8.

Mother

For man - y years he's been a - lone, — for - bid - den by the Lord to show the

8

36

*mf*

Detailed description: This block contains the third system of music for Mother, measures 36-39. It features a vocal line in the upper staff and a piano accompaniment in the lower two staves. The key signature has three sharps and the time signature is 8/8. The vocal line includes lyrics: "For man - y years he's been a - lone, — for - bid - den by the Lord to show the". The piano accompaniment includes a dynamic marking of *mf* (mezzo-forte) in the right hand.

If Only

39

Mother

things that he's been shown. And I see this dread-ful bur - den and his yearn-ing to — be free, and I

39

42

Mother

wish the world could see just what I see. *f* If they could on-ly see the things I've been

Joseph

*f* If they could on-ly see the things I've been

42

45

Mother

giv - en. If they could on-ly see — the things I have seen. If they could

Joseph

giv - en. If they could on-ly see — the things I have seen. If they could

45

If Only

48

Mother

on-ly see\_ then they could help me bear this bur - den. If they could on - ly see what I

Joseph

8

on-ly see\_ then they could help me bear this bur - den. If they could on - ly see what I

48

51

Mother

see.

Joseph

8

see.

Father

*mf*

He went and did\_ as was com-mand-ed. He went and did\_ as he was

51

*mf*

51

If Only

55

Father

told. And I know the things he's seen they are the work of God. I



58

Mother

Joseph

Father

on - ly hope he won't be left a - lone. If they could on - ly see\_ the things I've been

on - ly hope he won't be left a - lone. If they could on - ly see\_ the things I've been



If Only

61

Mother  
giv - en. If they could on - ly see \_ the things I have seen. If they could

Joseph  
giv - en. If they could on - ly see \_ the things I have seen. If they could

Father  
giv - en. If they could on - ly see \_ the things I have seen. If they could

64

Mother  
on - ly see \_ then they could help me bear this bur - den. If they could on - ly see what I

Joseph  
on - ly see \_ then they could help me bear this bur - den. If they could on - ly see what I

Father  
on - ly see \_ then they could help me bear this bur - den. If they could on - ly see what I

If Only

67 *mp* *rubato*

Mother *see.* If on - ly they could see it.

Joseph *see.* If *mp*

Father *see.* If on - ly they could see it. *mp* *rubato*

67 *mp* *rubato*

70 *rit.* *a tempo*

Mother what I see.

Joseph *rit.* *a tempo*  
on - ly they could see what I see.

Father *rit.* *a tempo*  
what I see.

70 *rit.* *a tempo* *rit.* *p*