

You're Not Dead Yet!

for vocal quartet and piano

David Gompper

You're Not Dead Yet!

Words by Marvin Bell

verse:

I went to the doctor, and he had this to say:
 your aches and pains are ordinary
 nothing extraordinary
 for a lady of your age.
 Whatever hurts, it's just arthritis in that joint.
 Well, I thought it idle chatter
 as he went on with his patter,
 but then he said "gall bladder!"
 And when I nearly swooned,
 believing I was doomed,
 he took away my breath
 and sank me to the depth,
 reminding me I'd gained a little weight--great!--
 and then he seemed to laugh it off:

chorus:

I'll give you an appointment
 with a man who has an ointment,
 after that you have to see
 a man about a horse
 not to put the horse
 before the cart,
 because of course you have a murmur
 in your heart.
 But don't worry, don't fret,
 you're getting older, and maybe colder,
 but you're not dead yet.

verse:

My doctor told me the same old story.
 A gory story. He said,
 Your back is broken, your nose is out of joint,
 your face is like a roadmap to the past.
 But your problem didn't start today.
 It started yesterday.
 It's rheumatism, rheumatism,
 everyone gets rheumatism,
 some at the beginning, some along the way.
 You're haywired, your joints are tired.
 You probably thought you'd live forever
 whatever the size of the the hole in your gut
 and I see spots on your liver.
 And then he seemed to laugh it off:

chorus:

I'll give you an appointment
 with a man who has an ointment,
 and after that you have to see
 a man about a horse,
 not to put the horse
 before the cart,
 because of course you have a murmur
 in your heart.
 But please don't worry, please don't fret,
 you're getting older, and maybe colder,
 but you're not dead yet--ha ha!
 No, you're not dead yet--ho ho!

It's just a minor hitch, it's just a little glitch.
 I'm sure you'll live forever and a day.
 You won't be meeting death
 till you take your last breath.
 Start counting the years while you may.

Start counting the years while you may--ha ha!
 Start counting the years while you can--ho ho!
 Start counting the years if you dare--get a life!
 Start counting, start counting, take a number,
 get in line, no pushing, no complaining,
 no regrets, no postponement,
 no exceptions, no atonement.

And it's good to have a giggle
 when your joints begin to jiggle.
 When finally you have to go,
 when finally you meet the Force,
 exit with a smile and say
 you've got to see a man about a horse

The words by Marvin Bell, was written for a
 Words and Music course we taught at the
 University of Iowa in 1998. The music is set in the
 style of S. Sondheim.

You're Not Dead Yet!

words by Marvin Bell

music by David Gompper

1998

1 Andante (♩ = 72)

Soprano

I went to the doc - tor, and he had this to say

piano

p

5 ♩ = 90

piano

mp

Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. Ped. (sim)

9

Mezzo

p

your aches and pains are or - din - a - ry no - thing ex -

Baritone

p

your aches and pains are or - din - a - ry no - thing ex -

Bass

p

your aches and pains are or - din - a - ry no - thing ex -

piano

p

12

Mezzo
traor - din - a - ry for a la - dy of your age — What - ev - er hurts,

Baritone
traor - din - a - ry for a la - dy of your age — What - ev - er hurts,

Bass
traor - din - a - ry for a la - dy of your age — What - ev - er hurts,

piano

16

Mezzo
it's just ar - thri - tis in that joint.

Baritone
it's just ar - thri - tis in that joint.

Bass
it's just ar - thri - tis in that joint.

piano

20 $\text{♩} = 60$

Soprano

Well, I thought it i - dle chat - ter_ as he

piano

24 $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$

Soprano

went on with his pat - ter, and then he said, "gall blad - - der!"

piano

27 $\text{♩} = \text{♩}$

Soprano

And when I near - ly swooned, be - liev - ing I was doomed, he took my breath a - way

piano

30

Soprano

and sank me to the depth, re - mind - ing me I'd gained a lit - - tle

piano

33

Soprano

weight Great! and then he seemed to laugh it

piano

f

36

Soprano

off:

piano

39

Baritone

I'll give you an ap-point - ment with a

piano

mp

42

Baritone

man who has an oint - ment af-ter that you have to see a

piano

46

Musical score for measures 46-47. The score is in common time (C) and 6/8 time. It features three vocal parts: Mezzo, Baritone, and Bass, and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "man a-bout a horse not to put the horse be-fore".

Mezzo: not to put the horse be-fore

Baritone: man a-bout a horse not to put the horse be-fore

piano: Accompaniment for piano.

50

Musical score for measures 50-51. The score is in common time (C) and 6/8 time. It features four vocal parts: Mezzo, Baritone, Bass, and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "the cart, be-cause of course you have a mur-mur in your".

Mezzo: the cart, be-cause of course you have a mur-mur in your

Baritone: the cart, be-cause of course you have a mur-mur in your

Bass: be-cause of course you have a mur-mur in your

piano: Accompaniment for piano.

52

Mezzo
heart. you're

Baritone
heart. don't fret,

Bass
heart. don't wor-ry,

piano
f *dim.* *p*

55

Mezzo
old - er, but you're not dead yet.

Baritone
and cold - er, but you're not dead yet.

Bass
and cold - er, but you're not dead yet.

piano
sfz *f*

$\text{♩} = 72$

58

Soprano

My doc - tor told me the same old sto - ry.

piano

dim. *p*



61

Soprano

A go - ry sto - ry He said,

A tempo II

piano



64

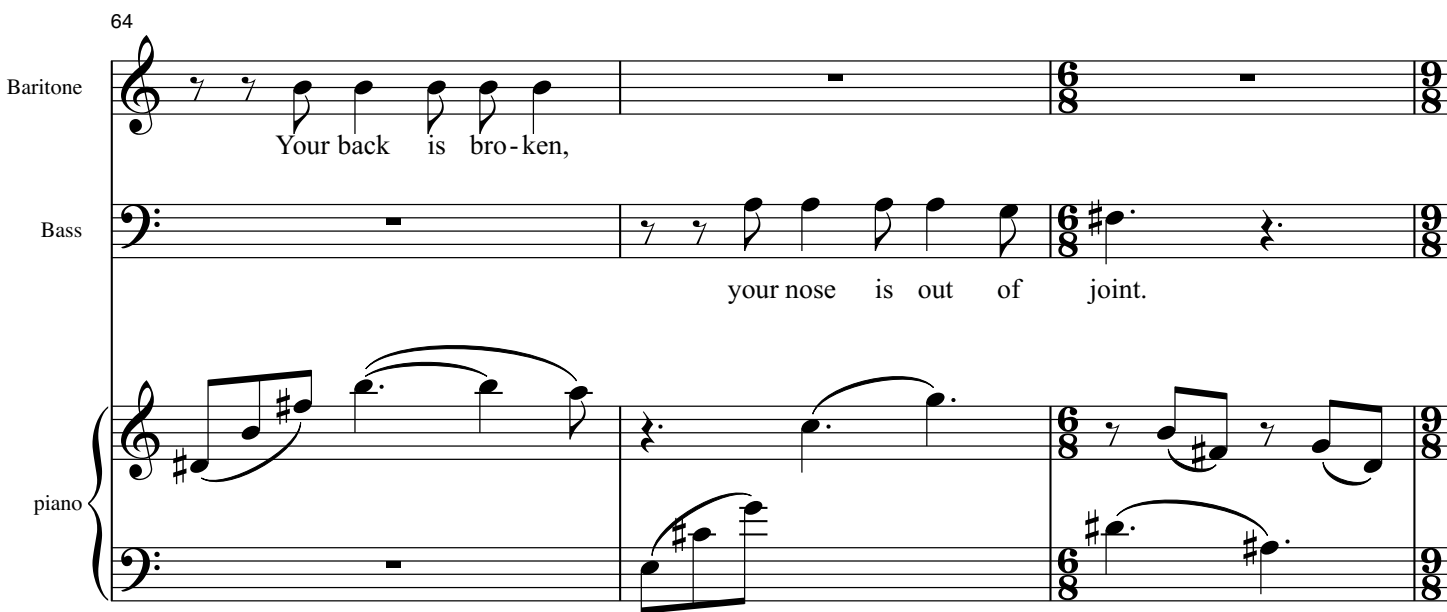
Baritone

Your back is bro-ken,

Bass

your nose is out of joint.

piano



67

Mezzo
Baritone
Bass
piano

your face is like a road - map to the past.
to the past.
to the past.

71

Mezzo
Baritone
Bass
piano

you pro-ba-bly thought you'd
your joints are tir-ed.
You're hay - wir-ed.

74

Soprano

Mezzo

piano

and then he seemed to laugh it

live for - ev - er.

77

Soprano

piano

rit.

Allegro ♩ = 144

off:

pp

f

79

Bass

piano

I'll give you an ap - point - ment with a

mp

82

Bass

man who as an oint - ment af - ter that you have to see a

piano

86

Baritone

not to put the horse be - fore

Bass

man a - bout a horse not to put the horse be - fore

piano

90

Mezzo

be - cause of course you have a mur - mur in your

Baritone

the cart, _____ be - cause of course you have a mur - mur in your

Bass

the cart, _____ be - cause of course you have a mur - mur in your

piano

92

Mezzo
heart. don't wor-ry you're

Baritone
heart. don't fret,

Bass
heart. don't wor-ry, you're

piano

95

Mezzo
old - er, but you're not dead yet.

Baritone
and cold - er, but you're not dead yet.

Bass
old - er, but you're not dead yet.

piano

98

Mezzo
but you're not dead yet.

Baritone
but you're not dead yet.

Bass
but you're not dead yet.

piano
p

101

Mezzo
It's just a min - or hitch,

Baritone

Bass
it's just a lit - tle glitch.

piano

103

Mezzo
Baritone
Bass
piano

and a day.
I'm sure you'll live for - ev - er and a day.
and a day.

105

Mezzo
Baritone
Bass
piano

You won't be meet - ing death,

107

Mezzo
till you take your last breath. the years

Baritone
Start count - ing the years

piano

109

Soprano
while you may.

Mezzo
while you may. start count-ing the years while you may.

Baritone
while you may. while you may.

Bass
while you may. while you may.

piano
mf
mp

112

Soprano
while you can!

Mezzo
while you can!

Baritone
Start count-ing the years while you can!

Bass
while you can! Start count-ing the

piano

115

Soprano
if you dare! Start count-ing the years.

Mezzo
if you dare! Start count-ing the years.

Baritone
if you dare! Start count-ing the years.

Bass
years if you dare! Start count-ing the years.

piano

118

Soprano
"gall blad - der!" "gall

Mezzo
It's just a min-or hitch it's just a lit-tle glitch. I'm sure you'll live for-

Baritone
Start count-ing the years while you may! Start count-ing the

Bass
I'll give you an ap-point-ment, with a

piano

121

Soprano
blad - der!" And when I near - ly swooned, be -

Mezzo
ev - er and a day. You won't be meet-ing death till you take your last

Baritone
years while you can! Start count-ing the years if you dare!

Bass
man who has an oint - ment, and af - ter that you have to see a

piano

124

Adagio

Soprano
liev - ing I was dead.

Mezzo
breath. Start count-ing if you dare! Start count - ing

Baritone
Start count - ing the years. Start count-ing get in

Bass
man a - bout a horse. take a num - ber,

piano
Adagio

127

Mezzo
no push - ing, no post - pone - ment, Start count - ing

Baritone
line no a - tone - ment, Start

Bass
no com - plain - ing no ex - cep - tions, Start count - ing,

piano

129 *accel.*

Mezzo
Start count - ing, take a num - ber, get in line, no push - ing,

Baritone
count - ing, Start count - ing, take a num - ber, get in line, no

Bass
Start count - ing take a num - ber, get in line, no push - ing,

piano *accel.*

131

Mezzo
no com - plain - ing, no re - grets, nopost - pone - ment, no ex - cep - tions,

Baritone
push - ing, no com - plain - ing, no re - grets, nopost - pone - ment, no ex

Bass
no com - plain - ing, no re - grets, nopost - pone, ment, no ex - cep - tions,

piano

♩. = 48

133

Soprano
Mezzo
Baritone
Bass

no a-tone-ment no a-tone-ment, no a-tone-ment.
cep-tions, no a-tone-ment, no a-tone-ment.
no a-tone-ment, no a-tone-ment, no a-tone-ment.

And it's so good to have a
Oo,
Oo,
Oo,

piano

135

Soprano
Mezzo
Baritone
Bass

gig - gle_ when all your joints be-gin to jig - gle,_
_ have a gig - gle, just a gig - gle, Oo, be-gin to jig - gle, just to
_ have a gig - gle, just a gig - gle, Oo, be-gin to jig - gle, just to
_ have a gig - gle, just a gig - gle, Oo, be-gin to jig - gle, just to

piano

138

Soprano

When fi - nal - ly you have to go, when fi - nal - ly you meet the

Mezzo

jig - gle, Oo, you have to fi - nal - ly go, Oo,

Baritone

jig - gle, Oo, you have to fi - nal - ly go, Oo,

Bass

jig - gle, Oo, you have to fi - nal - ly go, Oo,

piano

141

Soprano

Force, ex - it with a smile and say, you've got to see a man a -

Mezzo

ex - it with a smile and say, you've got to see a man a -

Baritone

ex - it with a smile and say, you've got to see a man a -

Bass

ex - it with a smile and say, you've got to see a man a -

piano

loco

8^{va}

145

Soprano
 Mezzo
 Baritone
 Bass

bout a horse Not to put the horse be - fore the cart, - Please don't wor-ry please don't

piano

149

rit.

$\text{♩} = 90$

Soprano
 Mezzo
 Baritone
 Bass

fret, No! Be-cause of course you're not dead yet!

piano

rit.

p

Ped. Ped.

Soprano
Be-cause of course you're not dead yet!

Mezzo
Be-cause of course you're not dead yet!

Baritone
Be-cause of course you're not dead yet!

Bass
Be-cause of course you're not dead yet!

piano

The image shows a musical score for five parts: Soprano, Mezzo, Baritone, Bass, and piano. The vocal parts (Soprano, Mezzo, Baritone, and Bass) are written in treble clef and have the lyrics "Be-cause of course you're not dead yet!". The piano part is written in grand staff (treble and bass clefs) and includes a dynamic marking "f". The score is divided into three measures. The first measure contains the beginning of the vocal lines and the piano accompaniment. The second measure continues the vocal lines and piano accompaniment. The third measure concludes the vocal lines and piano accompaniment with a final chord and a fermata.