

# Tumbalalaika

Eastern European Riddle Song (c. 1930s)

arr. Marina Alexander (2022)

Moderato ♩ = 96      accel. . . . .

Baritone Solo

Piano

*mp*      *mf*

Fm      G      G<sup>7</sup>

Moderato ♩ = 52      *mf*      *A young lad stands, and he is thinking,*

8

Bar. Solo

Moderato ♩ = 52      1.Shteyt a bok - her, shteyt un tracht,

Cm      Cm      G

Pno

*mp*

14      *thinking and thinking all night.*      *Whom to take....*

Bar. Solo

tracht un tracht a gan - tze nacht.      Ve - men tsu ne - men

G<sup>7</sup>      Cm      A<sup>b</sup>      Cm

Pno

.....and not to shame.

20

Bar. Solo

un nit far - she - men, ve-men tsu ne - men un nit far - she - men.

Pno

Ab C7 Fm G G7 Cm

REFRAIN

27

Bar. Solo

Tum - ba - la, tum - ba - la, tum - ba - la - lai - ka, Tum - ba - la, tum - ba - la,

Pno

Cm G G7

play Balalaika

33

Bar. Solo

tum - ba - la - lai - ka, tum - ba - la - lai - ka, shpiel ba - la - lai - ka,

Pno

Cm Ab C7

39 *....may we be happy.*

Bar. Solo

tum - ba - la - lai - ka, frey-lach zol zayn.

Fm G G<sup>7</sup> Cm G Cm G

Pno

*mf*

45 *Maiden, maiden, I want to ask of you....*

Bar. Solo

2.Mey - dl, mey - dl, ch'vel bay dir fre - gen,

Cm G Cm G Cm G

Pno

*mp*

51 *what can grow, grow without rain? What can burn.....*

Bar. Solo

Vos kan vak - sn, vak - sn on re - gn? Vos kon bre - nen

G<sup>7</sup> G Cm Ab Cm

Pno

What can burn and never end?

What can yearn, and cry without tears?

57

Bar. Solo

un nit oyf - he - rn? Vos kon bre - nen, vey-nen on tre - ren?

Pno

Ab C7 Fm G G7 Cm

REFRAIN

63

Bar. Solo

Tum-ba - la, tum- ba - la, tum-ba - la - lai - ka, Tum-ba - la, tum-ba - la,

S. *mp*

Tum-ba - la, tum- ba - la, tum-ba - la - lai - ka, Tum-ba - la, tum-ba - la,

A. *mp*

Tum-ba - la, tum- ba - la, tum-ba - la - lai - ka, Tum-ba - la, tum-ba - la,

T. *mp*

Tum-ba - la, tum- ba - la, tum-ba - la - lai - ka, Tum-ba - la, tum-ba - la,

B. *mp*

Tum-ba - la, tum- ba - la, tum-ba - la - lai - ka, Tum-ba - la, tum-ba - la,

Pno

Cm G G7

69

Bar. Solo

tum - ba - la - lai - ka, tum - ba - la - lai - ka, shpiel ba - la - lai - ka,

S.

tum - ba - la - lai - ka, tum - ba - la - lai - ka, shpiel ba - la - lai - ka,

A.

tum - ba - la - lai - ka, tum - ba - la - lai - ka, shpiel ba - la - lai - ka,

T.

tum - ba - la - lai - ka, tum - ba - la - lai - ka, shpiel ba - la - lai - ka,

B.

tum - ba - la - lai - ka, tum - ba - la - lai - ka, shpiel ba - la - lai - ka,

Pno

Cm Ab C7

*mf*

....may we be happy.

75

Bar. Solo

tum-ba - la - lai - ka, frey-lach zol zayn.

S.

tum-ba - la - lai - ka, frey-lach zol zayn.

A.

tum-ba - la - lai - ka, frey-lach zol zayn.

T.

tum-ba - la - lai - ka, frey-lach zol zayn.

B.

tum-ba - la - lai - ka, frey-lach zol zayn.

Pno

Fm G G<sup>7</sup> Cm

*mp*

Foolish lad, why do you have to ask?

A stone can grow,....

82

Bar. Solo

3.Na - ri-she bok - her, vos darfs-tu fre - gn? A shteyn ken vak - sn,

Pno

Cm G

*mp*

....grow without rain.

It's love that can burn and never end,

88

Bar. Solo

vak - sn on re - gn. Li - beh ken bre - nen un nit oyf -

Pno

Cm Ab Cm Ab

a heart can yearn, and cry without tears

93

Bar. Solo

he - rn, a harts kon ben - ken, vey - nen on tre - nen.

Pno

C7 Fm G G7 Cm

+ CHORUS →

98

Bar. Solo

rit. . . . .

Pno

rit. . . . .

cres. poco a poco

REFRAIN

A tempo  $\text{♩} = 52$

102

Bar. Solo

*f*

Musical staff for Baritone Solo in bass clef, featuring a melody of eighth and quarter notes.

Tum - ba - la, tum - ba - la, tum - ba - la - lai - ka, Tum - ba - la, tum - ba - la,

S.

*f*

Musical staff for Soprano in treble clef, featuring a melody of eighth and quarter notes.

Tum - ba - la, tum - ba - la, tum - ba - la - lai - ka, Tum - ba - la, tum - ba - la,

A.

*f*

Musical staff for Alto in treble clef, featuring a melody of eighth and quarter notes.

Tum - ba - la, tum - ba - la, tum - ba - la - lai - ka, Tum - ba - la, tum - ba - la,

T.

*f*

Musical staff for Tenor in treble clef, featuring a melody of eighth and quarter notes.

Tum - ba - la, tum - ba - la, tum - ba - la - lai - ka, Tum - ba - la, tum - ba - la,

B.

*f*

Musical staff for Bass in bass clef, featuring a melody of eighth and quarter notes.

Tum - ba - la, tum - ba - la, tum - ba - la - lai - ka, Tum - ba - la, tum - ba - la,

A tempo  $\text{♩} = 52$

Pno

*f*

Piano accompaniment for the refrain, showing chords and bass line. Chords are Cm, G, and G7.



108

Bar. Solo



Musical staff for Baritone Solo, showing a melodic line in bass clef with lyrics underneath.

tum - ba - la - lai - ka, tum - ba - la - lai - ka, shpiel ba - la - lai - ka,

S.



Musical staff for Soprano, showing a melodic line in treble clef with lyrics underneath.

tum - ba - la - lai - ka, tum - ba - la - lai - ka, shpiel ba - la - lai - ka,

A.



Musical staff for Alto, showing a melodic line in treble clef with lyrics underneath.

tum - ba - la - lai - ka, tum - ba - la - lai - ka, shpiel ba - la - lai - ka,

T.



Musical staff for Tenor, showing a melodic line in treble clef with lyrics underneath.

tum - ba - la - lai - ka, tum - ba - la - lai - ka, shpiel ba - la - lai - ka,

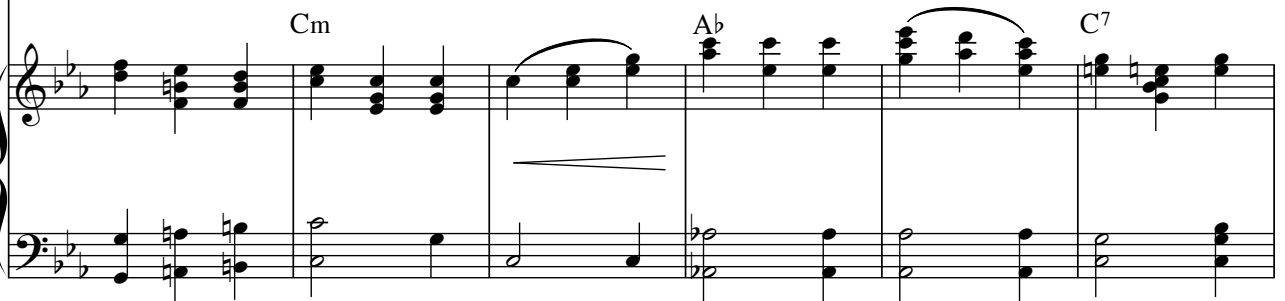
B.



Musical staff for Bass, showing a melodic line in bass clef with lyrics underneath.

tum - ba - la - lai - ka, tum - ba - la - lai - ka, shpiel ba - la - lai - ka,

Pno



Piano accompaniment for the vocal parts, showing chords and bass line. Chords are labeled Cm, Ab, and C7.

114

Bar. Solo

1. 2.

tum - ba - la - lai - ka, frey-lach zol zayn. frey - lach zol

S.

tum - ba - la - lai - ka, frey-lach zol zayn. frey - lach zol

A.

tum - ba - la - lai - ka, frey-lach zol zayn. frey - lach zol

T.

tum - ba - la - lai - ka, frey-lach zol zayn. frey - lach zol

B.

tum - ba - la - lai - ka, frey-lach zol zayn. frey - lach zol

Fm G G<sup>7</sup> Cm Fm G<sup>7</sup>

Pno

1. 2.

Detailed description: This is a musical score for the song 'Tumbalalaika' by Alexander. The score is for a baritone solo and four vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) along with piano accompaniment. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The score begins at measure 114. The vocal parts all sing the same lyrics: 'tum - ba - la - lai - ka, frey-lach zol zayn. frey - lach zol'. The piano accompaniment features a two-measure repeat structure. The first measure of the repeat contains chords Fm, G, G7, and Cm. The second measure contains chords Fm and G7. The piano part includes a melodic line in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand.

120

Bar. Solo

S.

A.

T.

B.

Pno

Cm

zayn.

The musical score is arranged in five systems. The first system contains the vocal parts: Baritone Solo (Bass clef), Soprano (Soprano clef), Alto (Alto clef), Tenor (Tenor clef), and Bass (Bass clef). Each vocal line begins with a long, sweeping melodic line that spans across the system, marked with a fermata at the end. Below each vocal line is a horizontal line with the word 'zayn.' written on it. The piano accompaniment (Pno) is located at the bottom of the page, starting at measure 120. It features a Cm chord marking and a 'Cresc.' marking. The piano part consists of a series of chords and melodic fragments in the right hand, and a bass line in the left hand. The score is in a key with two flats and a common time signature.