

Four Billion Years

Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass - optional Solo

by David Haines

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Andante

Piano introduction in 4/4 time, marked Andante. The music is in B-flat major. The right hand features a melody of eighth and quarter notes, while the left hand provides a simple harmonic accompaniment. A 'con ped' (con pedale) instruction is present at the beginning.

Unison or Solo Verse 1

Measures 4-6 of the vocal line. The lyrics are: Four bil - lion years. The piano accompaniment continues with a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a simple bass line in the left hand.

Measures 7-9 of the vocal line. The lyrics are: Four thou - sand mil - lion years Birth pangs of. The piano accompaniment continues with a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a simple bass line in the left hand.

Measures 10-12 of the vocal line. The lyrics are: life on Earth be - gan four bil - lion years a-go.... The piano accompaniment continues with a steady eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a simple bass line in the left hand.

13

Four bil - lion years

16

Four thou - sand mil - lion years We could be last

19

in a line four bil - lion years - - old...

22

How sad it would be

25

if we care - less - ly al - lowed life to - dis - ap - pear -

28

from ev' - ry land, from ev' - ry sea...

31

Now I'm so af - raid that the prog - gress

34

life has made could be thrown a-- way from sheer ne - glect from

37

hu - man a - pa - thy

40 Verse 2

Sop *p* Four bil - lion years

Alto *mf* Four bil - lion years Four thou - sand

Tenor *p* Four bil - lion years

Bass *p* Four bil - lion years

43

Sop Four thou - sand mil - lion years

Alto mil - lion years Birth pangs of

Tenor four thou - sand mil - lion

Bass four thou - sand mil - lion

45

Sop
life on Earth be - gan four bil - lion years a - go...

Alto
life on Earth be - gan four - bil - lion years a -- go...

Tenor
years four bil - lion years a go...

Bass
years four bil - lion years a go...

48

Sop
Four bil-lion years

Alto
Four bil - lion years

Tenor
Four bil - lion

Bass
Four bil - lion

51

Sop Four thou - sand mil - lion years

Alto Four thou - sand mil - lion years We may be last

Tenor 8 years four thou - sand mil - lion

Bass years four thou - sand mil - lion

54

Sop May be last in a line four bil - lion years

Alto in a line four bil - lion years

Tenor 8 years four bil - lion years

Bass years four bil - lion years

56

Sop
- old... How sad -

Alto
- - old... How sad

Tenor
- old... How

Bass
old... How

The musical score for measures 56-58 features four vocal parts and piano accompaniment. The Soprano part begins with a melodic line on 'old...' followed by a rest and then 'How sad -'. The Alto part follows a similar pattern with 'old...' and 'How sad'. The Tenor and Bass parts have lower, more sustained lines for 'old...' and 'How'. The piano accompaniment consists of a steady eighth-note bass line and a treble line with chords and moving lines.

59

Sop
it would be if we care - less - ly al - lowed

Alto
it would be if we care - less - ly al - lowed

Tenor
sad if life,

Bass
sad if life,

The musical score for measures 59-61 continues the vocal and piano parts. The Soprano and Alto parts sing 'it would be if we care - less - ly al - lowed'. The Tenor and Bass parts sing 'sad if life,'. The piano accompaniment continues with its rhythmic and harmonic support, featuring a consistent bass line and a treble line with various chordal textures.

62

Sop
life to dis - ap - pear from ev' - ry land from ev' - ry sea

Alto
to - dis - ap - pear from ev - ry land, from ev' - ry sea

Tenor
life dis - ap - peared from land ev' - ry sea

Bass
life dis - ap - peared from land ev' - ry sea

65

Sop
How sad it would be if life's -

Alto
How sad it would be if life's

Tenor
How sad if life's

Bass
How sad if life's

69

Sop
me - lo - dy was cut short ne-ver to sound a - gain in fu - ture his - to - ry...

Alto
me - lo - dy was cut short ne-ver to sound a - gain in fu - ture his - to - ry...

Tenor
me - lo - dy was cut short ne-ver to sound a - gain in fu - ture his - to - ry...

Bass
me - lo - dy was cut short ne-ver to sound a - gain in fu - ture his - to - ry...

73

Sop

Alto

Tenor

Bass