

If I Can Stop One Heart From Breaking

SATB and Piano

by Joseph Hasper

Text based on a poem by Emily Dickinson

Duration: 5'00"

If I Can Stop One Heart From Breaking

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From Complete Poems (1923), "Part One: Life"

VI

If I can stop one heart from breaking,
I shall not live in vain;
If I can ease one life the aching,
Or cool one pain,
Or help one fainting robin
Unto his nest again,
I shall not live in vain.

Moderato (♩ = 120)

mf (5)

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Piano

mf *p*

1 2 3 4 5 6

If I can stop one heart from

The musical score is for a vocal quartet and piano. It is in 4/4 time and B-flat major. The tempo is Moderato (♩ = 120). The score consists of six measures. The vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) have rests in the first four measures and enter in the fifth measure with the lyrics 'If I can stop one heart from'. The piano accompaniment begins in the first measure with a melody in the right hand and chords in the left hand. The dynamics are marked *mf* (mezzo-forte) for the first four measures and *p* (piano) for the last two measures. A circled number 5 is placed above the piano part in the fifth measure, indicating a measure rest.

If I Can Stop One Heart From Breaking

13

S
break - ing — If I can stop one heart from break - ing If I can stop one

A
p
Ooh —

T
p
Woo — Ooh. —

B

7 8 9 10 11 12 13

S
heart just one from break - ing — Then I shall not live —

A
mf
Can I stop a heart from break - ing? Ahh. Ooh. —

T
Ahh. — Ooh. —

B

14 15 16 17 18 19

If I Can Stop One Heart From Breaking

22

S *f* in vain I shall not live *mf* I shall not live If I can stop one

A *f* Aah. I shall not live, *mf* I shall not live, If I can stop one

T *f* Aah. I shall not live, *mp* Ooh Ooh Ooh

B I shall not live, *mp* Ooh Ooh Ooh

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

S heart from break - ing I shall not live in vain.

A *mp* heart from break - ing ooh ahh, live in vain. *f*

T *f* heart from break - ing ooh ahh, live in vain. *mp* *f*

B *f* heart from break - ing ooh ahh, live in vain. *mp* *f*

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

If I Can Stop One Heart From Breaking

35

pp
S Doo doo doo doo _____ doot doo. _____ ease one

pp
A Doo doo doo doo _____ doot doo. _____ ease one

mf solo
T If I can ease one life the ach - ing _____ If I can ease one

mf
B Or cool one pain _____ *Div.* -----

mp

34 35 36 37 38 39

43

mf
S life _____ Aah. _____ Or ev-en help a faint - ing rob-in _____ un - to his nest a -

p
A life _____ Aah. _____ Doo doo _____ Aah _____

mf
T life _____ the ach - ing _____ Or ev-en help a faint - ing rob-in _____ un - to his nest a -

mf
B _____ Aah, _____ ahh. _____ help a faint - ing rob-in _____ un - to his nest a -

40 41 42 43 44 45

If I Can Stop One Heart From Breaking

S gain. Then I shall not live in

A *mf* Un - to his nest a - gain. Ahh. Ahh.

T gain. Then I shall not live in

B gain. Then I shall not live Ahh.

46 47 48 49 50

S vain. I shall not

A I shall not

T vain. I shall not

B I shall not

I shall not

51 52 53 54 55 56 57

6 If I Can Stop One Heart From Breaking

58 *a tempo*

S live I shall not live If I can stop one heart from break - ing, one

A live, I shall not live, If I can stop, one heart from break - ing

T I shall not live. I shall not live. stop, one heart from break - ing

B live, I shall not live. stop, one heart from break - ing

mf

58 59 60 61 62 63 64

S life from ach - ing I shall not live in vain.

A Ahh. ooh ahh, live in vain. Not live in

T Ahh I shall not ahh, live in vain.

B Ahh. ooh ahh, live in vain.

mf

mp *mf*

mf *f* *mf*

65 66 67 68 69 70 71

If I Can Stop One Heart From Breaking

mf

S Not live in vain.

A vain. Not live in vain.

T *mf* I shall not live in vain.

B *mf* I shall not live in vain.

mp

72 73 74 75 76 77 78

80

84

S Bah bah,

A *f* If I can stop one

T *mp* Doo, to-doo doo to-doo doo Doo to-doo doo to-doo doo Doo to-doo,

B *mp* Doo doo doo doo doo Doo doo doo doo doo Doo doo

gtr. *loco*

79 80 81 82 83 84

If I Can Stop One Heart From Breaking

S — Bah bah, Ahh.

A heart from break - ing If I can stop one heart from

T doo to - do, doo doo to - doo, doot to - doo, doo Doo doo, doo doo, doo, doo,

B doo doo Doo doo doo doo doo Doo doo doo Doo doo

85 86 87 88 89

8vb *loco*

S — Ahh. If I can stop one heart just one from

A break - ing If I can aah

T Doo doo doo, Ahh. Ooh doo ahh

B doo doo Ahh doo, Doo, to-doo, to - doo, to - doo, to - doo ahh

90 91 92 93 94

p *mf* *mf*

If I Can Stop One Heart From Breaking

rit. -----

S
break - ing Can I stop a heart from break - ing? _____ *p*

A
Can I stop a heart from break - ing? Ahh. _____ *p*

T
ahh _____ Ahh. _____ Ahh. _____ *p*

B
ahh _____ Ahh. _____ Ahh. _____ *p*

95 96 97 *mf* 98

S
Ahh. _____ *a tempo* *f* I shall not live I shall not live (101)

A
I shall not live, *mf* I shall not live,

T
I shall not Doo to - doo Doo doo to - doo_ Doo doo to - doo Doo

B
I shall not Doo to - doo Doo doo to - doo_ Doo doo to - doo Doo

99 * 100 101 102 103

If I Can Stop One Heart From Breaking

S *f*
If I ___ can stop ___ one heart from break - ing, one

A *p* _____ *f*
If I ___ can stop, stop one heart from break - ing Ahh. _____ one

T *p* _____ *f*
doo to- doo can stop, stop one heart from break- ing one life from ach - ing one

B *p* _____ *f*
doo to- doo can stop, stop one heart from break- ing one life from ach - ing one



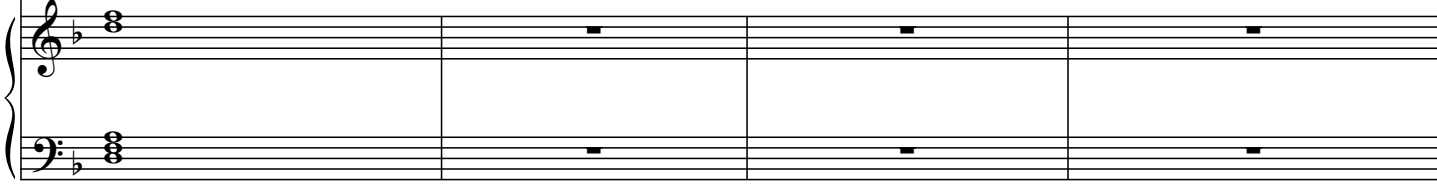
104 105 106 107 108 109

S heart _____ from break - - - -

A heart _____ from break - - - -

T stop one heart from break - - - -

B stop one heart from break - - - -



110 111 112 113

If I Can Stop One Heart From Breaking

S *mp* ing, I shall not live in vain. **117**

A *mp* ing ooh live in vain. Not live in

T *mp* ing ooh live in vain.

B *mp* ing ooh live in *mf* I shall not live in

mf *sfz*

114 115 116 117 118

S *mf* I shall not live in vain. I shall not live in

A *mp* vain. Not live in vain. Not live in vain. Not live in *mp*

T *mp* Not live in vain. Not live in *mp*

B *mp* vain. I shall not live in vain. Doo

119 120 121 122 123 124

125

S
vain. _____

A
vain.. Bah bah bah bah bah bah bah bah bah bah bah. If I can *mf*

T
8
Doo to - doo, doo, to - doo_ doo. Doo to - doo, doo to - doo, _ doo.

B
Doo doo_ doo doo. Doo doo_ doo doo. _

125 126 127 128

S
mf Doo doo. _ Doo doo. *mp* Doo doo. _ Doo doo. *p* Be doo be doo. >

A
mp stop one heart If I can stop one heart If I can stop *p*

T
8
p Doo doo, _ doo doo. *p* doo doo_ doo doo, doo.

B
p Doo doo_ doo. *p* Doo doo_ doo, doo.

129 130 131 132 133

Musical score for measures 134-138. The score includes vocal parts for Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B), and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "one heart" (S, A, T), "one heart, stop one heart." (B). Dynamics include *mf*, *mp*, and *p*. Measure numbers 134, 135, 136, 137, and 138 are indicated below the piano part.

Musical score for measures 139-143. The score includes vocal parts for Soprano (S), Alto (A), Tenor (T), and Bass (B), and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "from break - ing." (A), "Hmm." (S, T, B). A tempo marking of $\text{♩} = 60$ is present. Dynamics include *p* and *pp*. Measure numbers 139, 140, 141, 142, and 143 are indicated below the piano part.