


# Nearer and Dearer to Me

Words by BETH SLATER WHITSON

Music by MORT WEINSTEIN

*Andante con espress*



ff

*ped*

*rall*

*ped*

*p a tempo*

The piano introduction consists of two systems of music. The first system features a treble clef with a key signature of three flats and a 9/8 time signature. It begins with a forte (*ff*) dynamic and includes a *ped* (pedal) marking. The bass clef part starts with a 7-measure rest. The second system continues the piece, ending with a *p a tempo* marking.



*molto rit*

*p*

*a tempo*

*p*

1. Once, I was lone - ly, —  
2. Once, life was drear - y, —

The vocal entry is marked *molto rit* and *p*. The piano accompaniment is marked *a tempo* and *p*. The lyrics are: "1. Once, I was lone - ly, — 2. Once, life was drear - y, —".



Once I was sad, — Now I'm con - tent - ed, —  
Skies nev - er blue, — None of my dream - ing, —

The vocal line continues with the lyrics: "Once I was sad, — Now I'm con - tent - ed, — Skies nev - er blue, — None of my dream - ing, —". The piano accompaniment continues with various dynamics and articulations.



*poco accel*

Now I am glad, — You dear, have shown me, —  
Ev - er came true — Now that I've found you, —

*poco accel*

The final system includes the lyrics: "Now I am glad, — You dear, have shown me, — Ev - er came true — Now that I've found you, —". The piano accompaniment is marked *poco accel* in two places.

*a tempo*

love's gold - en way, You dear, must  
 Dear I can see, Al - ways the

*rall*

guide me, day aft - er day.  
 love - light, shin - ing for me.

REFRAIN

*mf*

Still near - er and dear - er, In

sad - ness and glad - ness my sun - light my

moon - light for - ev - er you'll be I

*rit*

love you, I love you, Each

*ff a tempo*

*Pesante*

*ff a tempo*

mo - ment I need you and al - ways I

*p molto rit*

want you Near - er and dear - er to me.

*p molto rit*