

A Song I Wish I'd Written

WORDS & MUSIC:
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Slowly, wistful

Yes-ter-day af-ter-noon I heard a tune at my fav-'rite caf-

The first system of musical notation for the song. It features a vocal line in treble clef and piano accompaniment in bass and treble clefs. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The tempo/mood is 'Slowly, wistful'. The lyrics are 'Yes-ter-day af-ter-noon I heard a tune at my fav-'rite caf-'. The piano part includes triplets and a long note in the bass line.

é, as clear as day, and then a-gain in the car— I think it was N. P. R. And

The second system of musical notation. The vocal line continues with the lyrics 'é, as clear as day, and then a-gain in the car— I think it was N. P. R. And'. The piano accompaniment continues with chords and moving lines in both hands.

to my dis-may it cut through the fray. Its haun-ting mel-o-dy filled me with jeal-ous-y,

The third system of musical notation. The vocal line continues with the lyrics 'to my dis-may it cut through the fray. Its haun-ting mel-o-dy filled me with jeal-ous-y,'. The piano accompaniment features a prominent bass line with a long note.

and made me say: Now that's a song I wish I'd writ-ten! Its turns of phrase ring

The fourth system of musical notation. The vocal line concludes with the lyrics 'and made me say: Now that's a song I wish I'd writ-ten! Its turns of phrase ring'. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines.

hon-est and true. It's real-ly my cup of tea. A mys-t'ry to me how it came to

be. Though I try, it's more than I could man-age to do. Now

that's a song I wish I'd writ-ten! It's bright and bold and taste-ful and taut.

It ought to be penned by me. Though were it to be (theo-re - tic-

'ly) I con - fess, I'd like it less, as of-ten as not. Those

har-mo-nies so sweet and new— and what a cle-ver bridge, too! Just when it may flit

in-to cli-ché it sur-pris-es you. I smile while I hear it, then

shrink and think: Now that's a song I wish I'd writ-ten! Its rhymes and tone so

un-af-fec-ted: log-i-cal— yet un-ex-pec-ted. I wish I had done it my-

self. The song is di-vine, I wish it were mine. But I'll keep it up there on the

A little slower rit. -----

shelf. More en-vious than I'd ad-mit I wish I'd writ-ten it. For I can't stand to

a tempo (I just can't...)

lis-ten to a song I wish I'd writ-ten.

8^a

*Yesterday afternoon I heard a tune
at my favorite café, as clear as day,
and then again in the car—I think it was NPR...
And to my dismay it cut through the fray.
Its haunting melody filled me with jealousy, and made me say:*

*Now that's a song I wish I'd written!
Its turns of phrase ring honest and true.
It's really my cup of tea.
A mystery to me just how it came to be.
Though I try, it's more than I could manage to do.*

*Now that's a song I wish I'd written!
It's bright and bold and tasteful and taut.
It ought to be penned by me.
Though were it to be (theoretically)
I confess, I'd like it less, as often as not.*

*Those harmonies so sweet and new—
and what a clever bridge, too!
Just when it may flit into cliché it
surprises you.
I smile while I hear it, then shrink and think:*

*Now that's a song I wish I'd written!
Its rhymes and tone so unaffected: logical yet unexpected.
I wish I had done it myself.
The song is divine. I wish it were mine.
But I'll keep it up there on the shelf.
More envious than I'd admit; I wish I'd written it.
For I can't stand to listen to a song I wish I'd written.*