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HAVE A LITTLE TALK WITH MYSELF

as sung by the Dealer's Choice

Words and Music by RAY STEVENS

Arrangement by GARY PARKER

Verse 1 *lively*

Tenor Lead

1 Late - ly I have no-ticed all — my friends a-void - ing me, and that

2

3

4

Bari Bass

5

6

7

8

girl who loves me up and said — good - bye. —

9

10

11

12

My whole world is com-in' a - part — and fall-in' in on me, and I

Have a Little Talk with Myself

2

Musical score for measures 13-16. The melody is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Measure 13 starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The bass line is in the same key and time. The lyrics are: "guess deep down I know the rea - son why." The melody features a half note in measure 15 and a whole note in measure 16.

13 14 15 16

guess deep down I know the rea - son why.

Verse 2

Musical score for measures 17-20. The melody is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Measure 17 starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The bass line is in the same key and time. The lyrics are: "Late - ly I've been liv - in' for no - bod - y else but me;" The melody features a half note in measure 17 and a whole note in measure 20.

17 18 19 20

Late - ly I've been liv - in' for no - bod - y else but me;

Musical score for measures 21-24. The melody is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Measure 21 starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The bass line is in the same key and time. The lyrics are: "let my self - ish e - go take com - mand." The melody features a half note in measure 21 and a whole note in measure 24.

21 22 23 24

let my self - ish e - go take com - mand.

Musical score for measures 25-28. The melody is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Measure 25 starts with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The bass line is in the same key and time. The lyrics are: "Late - ly I've been giv - in' in to pride and van - i - ty, and I" The melody features a half note in measure 25 and a whole note in measure 28.

25 26 27 28

Late - ly I've been giv - in' in to pride and van - i - ty, and I

29 30 31 32

guess I let it get the up-per hand. hand. I let it get the up-per

hand.

33 34 35 **Chorus 1** 36

hand.

And I think it's just a - bout time to

37 38 39 40

have a lit - tle talk with my - self,

have a lit - tle talk with my -

41 42 43

have a lit - tle talk with my - self,

self, have a lit - tle

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4

44 45 46

a lit - tle pri - vate con - ver - sa - tion, —

talk with my - self. —

oo

oo

Detailed description: This block contains the first system of the musical score, measures 44 to 46. The melody is in treble clef, and the bass line is in bass clef. Measure 44 starts with a half note G4. Measure 45 has a whole rest. Measure 46 begins with a half note Bb4, followed by eighth notes A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, and C4. Lyrics are placed below the notes. There are 'oo' markings above the staff in measures 45 and 46.

47 48 49

a lit - tle self ex - am - i - na - tion, —

a lit - tle at - ti - tude

oo

oo

Detailed description: This block contains the second system of the musical score, measures 47 to 49. Measure 47 has a half note G4. Measure 48 has a whole rest. Measure 49 begins with a half note Bb4, followed by eighth notes A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, and C4. Lyrics are placed below the notes. There are 'oo' markings above the staff in measures 47 and 49.

50 51 52

— di - rec - tion, a lit - tle soul search - in' in - spec - tion,

oo

oo

Detailed description: This block contains the third system of the musical score, measures 50 to 52. Measure 50 has a half note G4. Measure 51 has a whole rest. Measure 52 begins with a half note Bb4, followed by eighth notes A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, and C4. Lyrics are placed below the notes. There are 'oo' markings above the staff in measures 51 and 52.

53 54 55

start head - in' in the right di - rec - tion, take — a lit - tle

oo

oo

Detailed description: This block contains the fourth system of the musical score, measures 53 to 55. Measure 53 has a half note G4. Measure 54 has a whole rest. Measure 55 begins with a half note Bb4, followed by eighth notes A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, and C4. Lyrics are placed below the notes. There are 'oo' markings above the staff in measures 54 and 55.

Have a Little Talk with Myself

5

56 57 58 59

walk, _____ have a lit-tle talk with my - self. _____

take a lit-tle walk,

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 56 through 59. It is written for a grand staff with a treble and bass clef. Measure 56 has a treble staff with a half note and a bass staff with a half note. Measure 57 has a treble staff with a half note and a bass staff with a half note. Measure 58 has a treble staff with a half note and a bass staff with a half note. Measure 59 has a treble staff with a half note and a bass staff with a half note. The lyrics are: 'walk, _____ have a lit-tle talk with my - self. _____' and 'take a lit-tle walk,'.

Interlude

60 61 62 63

_____ doo doo doo doo _____ doo doo _____ doo _____

bum ba bum ba bum ba bum ba

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 60 through 63. It is written for a grand staff with a treble and bass clef. Measure 60 has a treble staff with a half note and a bass staff with a half note. Measure 61 has a treble staff with a half note and a bass staff with a half note. Measure 62 has a treble staff with a half note and a bass staff with a half note. Measure 63 has a treble staff with a half note and a bass staff with a half note. The lyrics are: '_____ doo doo doo doo _____ doo doo _____ doo _____' and 'bum ba bum ba bum ba bum ba'.

Verse 3

64 65 66 67

_____ wah oo wah. _____ I put im - por - tance on the wrong -

doo

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 64 through 67. It is written for a grand staff with a treble and bass clef. Measure 64 has a treble staff with a half note and a bass staff with a half note. Measure 65 has a treble staff with a half note and a bass staff with a half note. Measure 66 has a treble staff with a half note and a bass staff with a half note. Measure 67 has a treble staff with a half note and a bass staff with a half note. The lyrics are: '_____ wah oo wah. _____ I put im - por - tance on the wrong -' and 'doo'.

68 69 70 71

_____ things in this life, and my out - look had a twist - ed point - of

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 68 through 71. It is written for a grand staff with a treble and bass clef. Measure 68 has a treble staff with a half note and a bass staff with a half note. Measure 69 has a treble staff with a half note and a bass staff with a half note. Measure 70 has a treble staff with a half note and a bass staff with a half note. Measure 71 has a treble staff with a half note and a bass staff with a half note. The lyrics are: '_____ things in this life, and my out - look had a twist - ed point - of'.

Have a Little Talk with Myself

6

view. _____ All you reap with van - i - ty _____ is heart - ache _____ and

Musical notation for measures 72-76, featuring a treble and bass staff with lyrics.

strife; with-out love and friend - ship you can't make it through. _____

Musical notation for measures 77-80, featuring a treble and bass staff with lyrics.

Chorus 2

have _____ a lit - tle

And I think it's just _____ a - bout time to have, _____

Musical notation for measures 81-84, featuring a treble and bass staff with lyrics.

talk with my - self, _____ have _____ a lit - tle

have _____ a lit - tle talk with my - self, _____

Musical notation for measures 85-88, featuring a treble and bass staff with lyrics.

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7

89 90 91

talk with my - self, —

— have — a lit - tle talk with my - self. —

92 93 94

a lit - tle pri - vate con - ver - sa - tion, — a lit - tle self ex -

—

95 96 97

am - i - na - tion, a lit - tle at - ti - tude — di - rec - tion,

—

98 99 100

a lit - tle soul search - in' in - spec - tion, start head-in' in the

—

Have a Little Talk with Myself

8

101 right dir - ect - ion. 102 An - a - lyz - in', 103 rec - og -

An - a - lyz - in', rec - og - niz - in',

An - a - lyz - in', rec - og -

niz - in', i - tem - iz - in', crit - i - ciz - in', re - al -

104 i - tem - iz - in', 105 crit - i - ciz - in', 106 re - al - iz - in',

niz - in', i - tem - iz - in', crit - i - ciz - in', re - al -

iz - in', or - gan - iz - in', sum - ma - riz - in'. ooh

107 or - gan - iz - in', 108 sum - ma - riz - in', 109 os - tra - ciz - in'.

iz - in', or - gan - iz - in', sum - ma - riz - in'. oo

slowly

110 wah 111 Take a lit - tle walk, 112 oo have a lit - tle

wah oo

wah Take a lit - tle walk, oo

Have a Little Talk with Myself

Tag

9

talk with my self. Have a talk

talk with my - self. Have

talk with my - self. Have

with my - self!

a lit - tle talk with my - self!

with my - self!

Performance Notes

Ray Stevens was born Harry Dale Ragsdale in Georgia on January 11, 1939. He started his career as a classically trained composer and musician. He wrote dozens of songs, but, as luck would have it, he struck gold with his novelty material. *Gitarzan*, released in 1969, became a million-seller hit. He later won a Grammy award for *Everything is Beautiful* and a second Grammy in 1975 for *Misty*. But he will probably be remembered best for *The Streak*, *Ahab the Arab*, *Santa Claus is Watching You* and a BHS performers' favorite, *Turn Your Radio On*. In 1969-70 he had modest country hits with *Sunday Morning Coming Down* and *Have a Little Talk With Myself*.

Stevens was elected to the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame in 1980, and has earned dozens of Gold and Platinum records, as well as other awards. He recently scored a YouTube hit with *We the People*, released Sept 11, 2009. Arranger Gary Parker, bass of the BHS championship quartet the **Dealer's Choice**, arranged this song as a show number for his quartet. It has been covered by dozens of BHS quartets, including champions the **Side Street Ramblers**, and **Max Q**.

Performers should take note: This chart is very rangy. The key chosen will have to take into account the extreme ranges of the bass and/or the tenor. The demo track is pitched in F, as the chart was written, while the learning tracks from BHS are pitched in Gb. A frantic sort of feel when the song reaches measure 102 until measure 110 seems appropriate, reflecting the performers' life frustrations.

As a final note: Questions about the contest suitability of this or any other song or arrangement should be directed to the judging community and measured against current contest rules. Ask *before* you sing.