

WHEN I LEAVE THE WORLD BEHIND

Revised
2/13/2019

1915

Words and Music by IRVING BERLIN

Arrangement by DAVE BRINER
2019

Verse *Entire arrangement is to be sung freely, as dictated by the lyric.*

The musical score is arranged in four systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The vocal line is split into Tenor Lead and Bari Bass parts. The piano accompaniment is in 4/4 time and features a steady eighth-note bass line. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are: "I know a mil-lion-aire who's bur-dened down with care. A load is on his mind. He's think-ing of the day when he must pass a-way, and leave his wealth be-hind. I have-n't an-y gold to leave when I grow old." The score includes measure numbers 1 through 10. The Tenor Lead part has a melodic line with some grace notes and slurs. The Bari Bass part provides a harmonic foundation with a consistent eighth-note pattern. The piano accompaniment consists of a bass line and a treble line with chords and moving lines.

When I Leave The World Behind

11 Some-how it passed me by. 12 I'm ver - y poor, but still 13

14 I leave a pre - cious will 15 when I must say good

slower

16 *rit.* Chorus bye. good bye. I leave the 17 sun - shine 18 to the flow - ers. I leave the

19 spring - time 20 to the trees. And to the 21 old folks I leave the

22 mem - ries mem - 'ry mem - ries of a 23 ba - by up - on their knees. 24 I leave the

25 night time to the dream - ers. 26 I leave the song birds to the 27

28 blind, (I) leave the moon a - bove to those in love, when 29 30 *rit.*

31 I leave the world be - hind, when I leave the world be - 32 33 *rit.*

34 hind. 35 *rit.* 36 37

when I leave the world be - hind.

In memory of Mike Werner

Performance Notes

Irving Berlin was born in Russia in 1888, and his family immigrated to USA. Over his career he wrote both words and music to an estimated 1500 songs. A few of his best known are "Alexander's Ragtime Band" (1911), "God Bless America (1938), and "White Christmas" (1942). He died in 1989 at age 101.

This song was published by SPEBSQSA in 1975, and this arrangement was written 44 years later. It should be performed in a conversational style, emphasizing the message of the lyric.

Learning tracks for this arrangement are available from Kohl Kitzmiller - kohlkitzmiller@gmail.com