

Dearer Than Life!

Words by
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Music by
Stephen C. Foster

The piano introduction consists of six measures in 3/4 time. The right hand plays a simple melody of eighth and quarter notes. The left hand plays a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes with a slur over the first four notes of each measure.

7

C C G7 C

Sweet is the breath of the fair, dew - y morn,
Tell me you love me a - gain and a - gain!

The vocal line begins at measure 7 with a whole rest, then enters with a melody of quarter and eighth notes. The piano accompaniment continues with a similar rhythmic pattern, featuring chords in the right hand and a steady eighth-note bass line.

13

C C G7 C Am Am/C

Sweet is the Spring when the Ro - ses are born, Dear is the light of the
Part - ed from thee, oh! the wea - ri - some pain! Morn has no beau - ty to

The second verse begins at measure 13. The vocal line continues with a melody of quarter and eighth notes. The piano accompaniment features a more complex chordal texture in the right hand, including a sharp sign in the fourth measure, and a steady eighth-note bass line.

Dearer Than Life!

Am E Am Am E7 Am

19

eyes that we love, Dear is our wel-come when home-ward we rove;
 e - qual thy face, Spring has no lil - lies to e - qual thy grace!

G7 C G7 C Dm/F C/G

25

Dear - er, still dear - er, in joy or in strife, Dear-er than all art thou,
 Dear to me ev - er, in joy or in strife, Dear-er than all art thou,

G7(omit 3) C

31

dear - er than life!
 dear - er than life!