

# The Optimist and The Pessimist

Oscar Wilde  
Ben King

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**Cheerful** (♩=ca. 112) *f*

Soprano  
The op - ti - mist sees the do - nut,

Alto  
The op - ti - mist sees the do - nut,

Tenor  
The op - ti - mist sees the do - nut,

Bass  
The op - ti - mist sees the do - nut,

Piano  
(for rehearsal only)

**Gloomy** (♩=ca. 96) *mf* *rall.* *mp*

S  
the pes - si - mist sees the hole.

A  
the pes - si - mist sees the hole.

T  
the pes - si - mist sees the hole.

B  
the pes - si - mist sees the hole.

Piano

Light Swing (♩=ca. 120)

9

*mf*

S Noth-ing to do but work; Noth-ing to eat but

A Noth-ing to do but work; Noth-ing to eat but

T Noth-ing to do but work; Noth - ing to do. Noth-ing to eat but

B *mf*  
(no, no, no) Noth-ing to do but work; work; work; work; Noth-ing to eat but

Light Swing (♩=ca. 120)

*mf*

13

*f*

S food; Noth - ing to wear but clothes To

A food; Noth - ing to wear but clothes To

T food; Noth - ing to eat. Noth - ing to wear but clothes To

B food; Noth - ing to wear but clothes To

*f*

16

S keep one from go - ing nude.

A keep one from go - ing nude. *pp* Noth - ing, noth - ing, I said

T keep from go - ing... *pp* Noth - ing, noth - ing, I said

B keep from go - ing... *pp* Noth - ing, noth - ing, I said

20

S *mf* Noth - ing to comb.

A *p* noth - ing, noth - ing. *mf* Noth - ing to comb.

T *p* noth - ing, noth - ing. *f* Noth - ing to comb but hair,

B *p* noth - ing, noth - ing. *f* Noth - ing to comb but hair,

The Optimist and The Pessimist

24

S *f*  
No - where to sleep but in bed, No - where to sleep. Noth - ing to weep but tears, Noth -

A *f*  
No - where to sleep but in bed, Noth - ing to weep but tears, Noth -

T *f*  
No - where to sleep but in bed, Noth - ing to weep but tears.

B *f*  
No - where to sleep but in bed, Noth - ing to weep but tears,

28

S *mf*  
ing to bur - y but dead. Noth - ing to read but words,

A *mf*  
ing to bur - y but dead. Noth - ing to read but words,

T *mf*  
Noth - ing to bur - y but dead. Noth - ing to read.

B *mf*  
Noth - ing to bur - y but dead. Noth - ing to read.

The Optimist and The Pessimist

32 *ff rit.* *f* *molto rit.*

S Noth - ing to cast but votes, Noth - ing to hear but sounds,

A *ff rit.* *molto rit.* *f*

A Noth - ing to cast but votes, ...sounds,

T *ff rit.* *f* *molto rit.*

T Noth - ing to cast but votes, Noth - ing to hear but sounds,

B *ff rit.* *molto rit.* *f*

B Noth - ing to cast but votes, ...sounds,

*ff rit.* *f* *molto rit.*

**Double Time** (♩=ca. 120)

36 *a tempo* *mf*

S Noth - ing to breathe but air,

A *mp a tempo* *mf*

A Noth - ing to sail but boats. Noth - ing to breathe but air,

T *a tempo* *mf*

T Noth - ing to breathe but air, Noth - ing to breathe.

B *mp a tempo* *mf*

B Noth - ing to sail but boats. Noth - ing to breathe but air, air, air, air,

*mp a tempo* *mf*

**Double Time** (♩=ca. 120)

40

S Quick as a flash 'tis gone; No - where to fall but off,

A Quick as a flash 'tis gone; No - where to fall but off,

T Quick as a flash 'tis gone; Quick as a flash. No - where to fall but off, No -

B Quick as a flash 'tis gone; No - where to fall but off, No -

44

A Tempo (♩=ca. 120)

S No - where to stand but on.

A No - where to stand but... Noth - ing, noth - ing, I said noth - ing,

T where to stand but... Noth - ing, noth - ing, I said noth - ing,

B where to stand but... Noth - ing, noth - ing, I said noth - ing,

A Tempo (♩=ca. 120)

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48

S *mf* Noth - ing to sing but songs, *f* Ah, well: A-las! A -

A *mf* noth - ing. Noth - ing to sing but songs, *f* Ah, well: A-las! A -

T *mf* noth - ing. Noth - ing to sing.

B *mf* noth - ing. Noth - ing to sing.

*mf* *f*

52

S lack! A - las! A-lack! No - where to go but out, No - where to come but

A lack! A - las! A-lack! No - where to go but out, No - where to come but

T *f* A - las! A-lack! No - where to go but out, No - where to come but

B *f* A - las! A-lack! No - where to go but out, No - where to come but

The Optimist and The Pessimist

S  
back.

A  
*p* back. Noth - ing, *mp* noth - ing, I said noth - ing, noth - ing.

T  
*p* back. Noth - ing, *mp* noth - ing, I said noth - ing, noth - ing.

B  
*p* back. Noth - ing, *mp* noth - ing, I said noth - ing, noth - ing.

S  
*mf* Noth - ing to see but sights, Noth - ing to quench but thirst,

A  
*mf* Noth - ing to see but sights, Noth - ing to quench but thirst,

T  
*mf* Noth - ing to see but sights, Noth - ing to quench but thirst,

B  
*mf* Noth - ing to see but sights, Noth - ing to see. Noth - ing to quench but thirst,

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64

S *f* Noth - ing to have but what we've got; Thus through life we are cursed.

A *f* Noth - ing to have but what we've got; Thus through life we are... *p* Noth - ing,

T *f* Noth - ing to have but what we've got; Thus through life we are... *p* Noth - ing,

B *f* Noth - ing to have but what we've got; Thus through life we are... *p* Noth - ing,

*f* *p*

68

S *mf* Noth - ing to strike but a

A *mp* noth - ing, I said noth - ing, *mf* noth - ing. Noth - ing to strike but a

T *mp* noth - ing, I said noth - ing, *mf* noth - ing. Noth - ing to strike but a

B *mp* noth - ing, I said noth - ing, *mf* noth - ing. Noth - ing to strike but a

*mp* *mf*

The Optimist and The Pessimist

*moving forward* *accel.*

S gait; Ev - 'ry - thing moves that goes;

A gait; Ev - 'ry - thing moves that goes;

T gait; Noth - ing to strike. Ev - 'ry - thing moves that goes; Ev - 'ry - thing moves.

B gait; gait; gait; gait; Ev - 'ry - thing moves that goes;

*moving forward* *accel.*

*f a tempo* *rall.* *rit.*

S Noth - ing at all but com - mon sense Can ev - er with - stand these woes.

A *f a tempo* *rall.* *rit.*

T *f a tempo* *rall.* *rit.*

B *f a tempo* *rall.* *rit.*

Noth - ing at all but com - mon sense Can ev - er with - stand these woes.

*f a tempo* *rall.* *rit.*

**Cheerful** (♩=ca. 112)

S *f* The op - ti - mist sees the do - nut,

A *f* The op - ti - mist sees the do - nut,

T *f* The op - ti - mist sees the do - nut,

B *f* The op - ti - mist sees the do - nut,

**Cheerful** (♩=ca. 112)

**Gloomy** (♩=ca. 96)

82 S *mf* the pes - si - mist sees the hole. *rit.* *mp*

A *mf* the pes - si - mist sees the hole. *rit.* *mp*

T *mf* the pes - si - mist sees the hole. *rit.* *mp*

B *mf* the pes - si - mist sees the hole. *rit.* *mp*

**Gloomy** (♩=ca. 96)