

Tum Balalaika

Yiddish lyrics: Traditional

English lyrics: Gwyn Arch, based om Yiddish lyrics

German lyrics: Dieter Schneider

Music: Yiddish traditional

Arrangement: Gwyn Arch

Allegro ♩ = 152

1

2

Piano

mp

7

1. A young man lay think-ing all the night through,
 1. Ein - sam stand ein Mäd - chen am Strand
 1. Shteyt... a boch-er, shteyt... un tracht,

1. A young man lay think-ing all the night through,
 1. Ein - sam stand ein Mäd - chen am Strand
 1. Shteyt... a boch-er, shteyt... un tracht,

13

think - ing, think - ing what should he do. Whose do take?
 als ein frem - der Mann zu ihr fand, kam von Rei - se
 tracht un tracht a gan - ze nacht. an tsu ne men

think - ing, think - ing what should he do
 als ein frem - der Mann zu ihr
 tracht un tracht a gan - ze

19

mf she ac - cept him? What must he do?
 gab ihr im Mond - schein lä - cheind die Hand.
 Ve - men tsu ne - men un nit far - she - men.

f *mf*
 Wh... break? ... she ac - cept him? What must he do?
 wie der Tracht se gab ihr im Mond - schein lä - cheind die Hand.
 un fa she - me. Ve - men tsu ne - men un nit far - she - men.



25 **B**

Tum ba - la, tum ba - la, tum ba - la - lai - ka, tum ba - la - lai - ka,

Tum ba - la, tum ba - la, tum ba - la - lai - ka, tum ba - la - lai - ka,

31

tum ba - la - lai - ka, play ba - la - lai - ka,
spiel ba - la - lai - ka,
shpil ba - la - lai - ka,

tum ba - la - lai - ka, tum ba - la - lai - ka, play ba - la - lai - ka,
spiel ba - la - lai - ka,
shpil ba - la - lai - ka,



37

play ba - la - lai - ka, have a good time.
 mach uns das Le - ben schön mit Mu - sik.
 shpil ba - la - lai - ka, frey - lekh zol zayn.

tum ba-la-lai-ka, tum ba-la-lai-ka, have a good time.
 tum ba-la-lai-ka, tum ba-la-lai-ka, schön mit Mu - sik.
 shpil ba-la-lai-ka, tum ba-la-lai-ka, frey - lekh zol

43

mf

2. I'd like to know —
 2. I'd like to know —
 2. I'd like to know —

2. I'd like to know —
 2. I'd like to know —
 2. I'd like to know —

2. I'd like to know —
 2. I'd like to know —
 2. I'd like to know —

mp

3



49

Optional solo (sotto voce)
p

“Why don’t you ask me?”
„Sag, wa - r - um fragst du mich?”

what needs no rain and yet it can grow? ————
frag - te: „Sag, was wächst oh - ne Re - gen? ————
Vos — kon vak - sn, vak - sn on re — Vos — kon be - nen

55

poco rit.

I think I know
Ich weiß wohin

though it is burning ————
gibt doch, wer oh - ne Trä - nen weint.“
un — oyr — Vos — kon ben - ken, vey - nen on tren? —



61 **D** *mf* A tempo

Tum ba - la, tum ba - la, tum ba - la - lai - ka, tum la, ba - la,

mf

Tum ba - la, tum ba - la, tum ba - la - lai - ka, tum la, tum ba - la,

mf

67

tum ba - la - la. Tum ba - la - lai - ka, play ba - la - lai - ka,
 spiel ba - la - lai - ka,
 shpil ba - la - lai - ka,

cresc.

tum la - la. Tum ba - la, tum ba-la-lai-ka, play ba - la - lai - ka,
 spiel ba - la - lai - ka,
 shpil ba - la - lai - ka,

cresc.



73

play ba - la - lai - ka, have a good time.
 mach uns das Le - ben schön mit Mu - sik.
 shpil ba - la - lai - ka, frey - lekh zol zayn.

tum ba-la-lai-ka, tum ba-la-lai-ka, have a good time.
 tum ba-la-lai-ka, tum ba-la-lai-ka, schön mit Mu - sik.
 shpil ba-la-lai-ka, tum ba-la-lai-ka, frey - lekh zol zayn.

f

79

mp

3. fool - ish boy, now sure - ly you know a
 Mäd - chen, denk auf all dei - nen We - gen,
 5. Na - rish - er bokh - er, vos darfs - tu fregn? —

mp

3. fool - ish boy, now sure - ly you know a
 3. Mäd - chen, denk auf all dei - nen We - gen,
 5. Na - rish - er boch - er, vos darfs - tu fregn? —

p



85

stone needs no rain and yet it can grow. It's love that can
 Stei - ne wach - sen oh - ne den Re - gen. Lie - be kann bren - nen
 A shteyn kon vak - sn, vak - sn on regn. be - ken bre - nen

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91

man - y long years, a heart that is yearning will cry with - out tears.
 oh - ne tsu Fe - er. Und oh - ne Trä - nen weint man - ches Herz.
 un nit A ha - ts kon ben - ken, vey - nen on tren.

but years and years.
 bren - nen, nen.
 bre - nen, bre - nen.



97 **F** *f*

Tum, tum, tum ba - la - lai - ka, tum

ff

Tum ba - la, tum ba - la, tum ba - la - lai - ka, ha tum ba - la,

f

103

tum ba - la - lai - ka, Tum ba - la - lai - ka, play ba - la -
spiel ba - la -
shpil ba - la -

tum ba - la, tum ba - la, tum ba - la - lai - ka, play ba - la -
spiel ba - la -
shpil ba - la -



108

lai - ka, play ba - la - lai - ka, have a good time!
 lai - ka, mach uns das Le - ben so mit Mu - sik.
 lai - ka, shpil ba - la - lai - ka, - lekht zeyn.

lai - ka, tum ba - la - lai - ka, tum ba - la - lai - ka have a good time!
 lai - ka, tum ba - la - lai - ka, tum ba - la - lai - ka mit Mu - sik.
 lai - ka, shpil ba - la - lai - ka, tum ba - la - lai - ka frey zol zeyn.

113

Play and play! It's ba - la - lai - ka time!
 Spiel und Spiel! Spiel ba - la - lai - ka spiel!
 Shpil und Shpil! Shpil ba - la - lai - ka shpil!

Play and play! It's ba - la - lai - ka time!
 Spiel und Spiel! Spiel ba - la - lai - ka spiel!
 Shpil und Shpil! Shpil ba - la - lai - ka shpil!

ff *sfz*

