

The sound of silence

Words and music by
Paul Simon

$\text{♩} = 56$

SOPRANO

ALTO

BARITONE/ALTO
(optional)

PIANO

p

Hel- lo dark-ness my old friend,

p

Hel- lo dark-ness my old friend,

p

Hel-lo, — old

$\text{♩} = 56$

p legato

4

I've come to talk with you a - gain, be-cause a vi-sion soft-ly—

I've come to talk with you a - gain, be-cause a vi-sion soft-ly—

friend, I've come to talk with

7

poco cresc.

— creep-ing,— left its seeds while I was— sleep-ing,—

poco cresc.

— creep-ing,— left its seeds while I was— sleep-ing,—

poco cresc.

you a - gain, talk with you a - gain.—

poco cresc.

10

and the vi - sion that was plant-ed in my brain

and the vi - sion that was plant-ed in my brain

The vi - sion in my brain

13

still re-mains with-in the sound

still re-mains with-in the sound of si-lence.

still re - mains, the sound

Ped.

17 SOLO (or a few voices)

(1.) In rest-less dreams I walked a - lone through nar-row streets of cob -bled ten thou-sand peo -ple, may-be

(2.) saw

(1.) a - lone,

(2.) I saw

(1.) a - lone,

(2.) I saw

20 *cresc.*

stone. more. 'Neath the ha - lo of a street lamp,
 of stone, much more, Peo - ple talk - ing with - out speak - ing,

of stone, much more, 00

of stone, much more, 00

23 *FULL mf*

I turned my col - lar to the cold and damp, when my eyes were stabbed,
 peo - ple hear - ing with - out list - 'ning. Peo - ple writ - ing songs

when my eyes were stabbed
 Peo - ple writ - ing songs

when my eyes were stabbed
 Peo - ple writ - ing songs

when my eyes were stabbed
 Peo - ple writ - ing songs

26 *f*

the flash of a light that split the
 that voi - ces ne - ver share, and no - one

by the flash of a ne - on light that split the night
 that voi - ces ne - ver share, and no - one dare

by the flash of a ne - on light
 that voi - ces ne - ver share,

sfz

29

SOLO

SOLO (or a few voices)

1. *mp*

night, and touched the sound
 dare dis-turb the sound

2. And in the na-ked light I

pp

of si-lence.

p

pp

Ped.

33

2. *f*

"Fools!" said I, "You do not know
 si-lence like a can-cer

f

"Fools! You do not know

f

"Fools! You do not know si-lence like a can-cer

f

mp

pp

f

mp

36

mp

grows. Hear my words that I may teach you.

mp

si-lence like a can-cer grows. I'll teach you.

mp

grows. I'll teach you.

mp

39

f Take my arms that I may reach you!" — *mp* But my words —

f I'll reach you!" — *mp* But my words —

f I'll reach you!" —

mf *f* *mp*

42

— like si-lent rain-drops fell — and

— like si-lent rain-drops fell, they fell

they fell

p *p*

SOLO

p

Ped.

47

FULL *molto* *mf*

e-choed in the wells And the peo-ple bowed and

molto *pp* *mf*

in the wells of si-lence. And the peo-ple bowed and

mf

And the peo - ple

pp *pp* *mf*

51

prayed to the ne - on god they made.

prayed to the ne - on god they made.

prayed to the god they made.

54

cresc. And the sign flashed out its warn - ing in the words that it was -

cresc. And the sign flashed out its warn - ing in the words that it was -

cresc. And the sign flashed its warn - ing in the words it was

57

form - ing. And the signs said, *f* "The words of the pro - phets are

form - ing. And the signs said, *f* "The words of the pro - phets are

form - ing. And the signs said, *f* "The words of the pro - phets are

60

writ-ten on the sub-way walls, and te-ne-ment halls, and

writ-ten on the sub-way walls, and te-ne-ment halls,

writ-ten on the sub-way walls, and te-ne-ment halls,

mp *p*

mp

mp

mp

Ped. _____

63

whis-pered in the sound of si-lence,

whis-pered of si-lence,

whis-pered in the sound si-lence.

p *pp* *pp*

rit. *a tempo*

p *pp*

rit. *a tempo*

Ped. _____

66

si-lence.

si-lence.

rit. *a tempo*

rit.

Ped. _____

laissez vibrer