

# Back To Before

(Mother, Ensemble Women)

Cue:  
FATHER: "Everything will be fine, Mother."  
(FATHER exits.)

*In "I"*

*mp*

1

6

7

8A

9

*Up!cht*

V.S.

(Simply, conversationally)

MOTHER:

There was a time our hap - pi - ness seemed ne - ver - en - ding.

*Solo harp:*  
*p a capella*

11

I was so sure that where we were hea - ding was right.

17

Life was a road so cer - tain and straight and un - ben - ding.

23

Our lit - tle road with ne - ver a cross-road in sight.

*Harp* *Orchestration* *(Orch in:)*

29

35

Back in the days when we spoke in ci - vi - lized voic - es,

41

wo - men in white and stur - dy young men at the oar.

47

Back in the days when I let you make all my choic - es...

*poco rit.*

53

We can ne - ver go back to be -

*(roll down)*

*(A Tempo)*

*poco rit.*

*A Tempo*

57

fore. *Maria Wapohumnd*

63

There was a time my feet were so so - lid - ly plant - ed.

69

You'd sail a - way while I turned my back to the sea.

75

I was con - tent, a prin - cess a - sleep and en - chant - ed.

If I had dreams, then I let you dream them for me.

81

Back in the days when ev - ry - thing seemed so much clear - er.

87

Wo - men in white who knew what their lives held in store.

93

Where are they now, those wo - men who stared from the mir

99

-5-

ror? We can ne - ver go back to be -

*poco rit.*

104

*A Tempo poco piu mosso*

fore.

*poco piu mosso*

109

*Ped.*

MOTHER:

There are

ENSEMBLE WOMEN: (Offstage:)

*p*  
(Ah)

113

*Ped.*

peo - ple out there un - a - fraid of re -

(Ah)

117

veal - ing that they might have a

(Ah)

121

feel - ing, or they might have been

div.

(Ah)

125

wrong. There are

129

peo - ple out there un - a - fraid to feel

(Ah)

133

sor - row, un - a - fraid of to -

div.

(Ah)

137



141

mor - row, un - a - fraid to be

(Ah) (Ah)

*poco a poco cresc.*

145

weak... un - a - fraid to be

(Ah)

*subp poco a poco cresc.*

149

strong.

*poco rall.* *rall.*

*div.* *poco rall.* *div.* *rall.*

(Ah) (Ah)

*cresc.* *rall.*

-9-

2/21/98

*A Tempo*

There was a time when you were the per-son in mo-tion.

(Ah)

153

I was your wife. It nev-er oc-curred to want more.

159

*A Little Slower*

*coll. voce*

*poco rit.*

*mp* You were my sky, my moon and my stars and my o-cean.

*mp* *poco rit.*

165

*A Tempo*  
*(Slightly Faster than Tempo Primo)*

(roll down)

*f* We can ne - ver go back to be -

171

fore

175

*poco rit.*

We can nev - er go back to

*poco rit.*

(colla voce)

179

be fore.

gliss.

(Tempo)

poco rall.

184

Detailed description: This system of music covers measures 184 to 188. It features a vocal line at the top with the lyrics "be fore." and a piano accompaniment below. The piano part includes a glissando in the right hand at measure 184, a tempo change to "(Tempo)" at measure 185, and a "poco rall." instruction at measure 188. The piano part is marked with a piano dynamic (*p.*) and includes various articulations such as accents and slurs.

sfz

189

Detailed description: This system of music covers measures 189 to 193. It continues the piano accompaniment from the previous system. The right hand features a series of chords with a forte dynamic (*f*) and a sforzando (*sfz*) marking at measure 193. The left hand continues with a steady accompaniment pattern.