

# How Could I Forget?

(From *Show Girl*)

Music and Lyrics by  
George Gershwin, Ira Gershwin and Gus Kahn

How \_\_\_\_\_ COULD I FOR- GET \_\_\_\_\_ ONCE \_\_\_\_\_ OUR EYES HAD

The first system of the score consists of three staves. The top staff is the vocal line in treble clef, 3/4 time, with lyrics: "How \_\_\_\_\_ COULD I FOR- GET \_\_\_\_\_ ONCE \_\_\_\_\_ OUR EYES HAD". The middle staff is the piano accompaniment in treble clef, and the bottom staff is in bass clef. The key signature has one flat (Bb).

MET \_\_\_\_\_ DEAR ONE, TELL ME,

The second system continues the piece with three staves. The vocal line has lyrics: "MET \_\_\_\_\_ DEAR ONE, TELL ME,". The piano accompaniment continues in the same style.

How \_\_\_\_\_ COULD I FOR- GET? \_\_\_\_\_ EV' -RY BREEZE THAT

The third system concludes the piece with three staves. The vocal line has lyrics: "How \_\_\_\_\_ COULD I FOR- GET? \_\_\_\_\_ EV' -RY BREEZE THAT". The piano accompaniment continues.



BLEW \_\_\_\_\_ SPOKE \_\_\_\_\_ TO ME OF YOU \_\_\_\_\_

How COULD I FOR- GET? EV'- RY

SONG- BIRD SEEMED TO ME \_\_\_\_\_ TO SING A- BOUT YOU \_\_\_\_\_

'EV- RY SUN- SET SEEMED TO BE \_\_\_\_\_ AN EMP-TY DREAM WITH-

OUT YOU — YEARS — COULD NOT E- RASE

The first system of music features a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are "OUT YOU — YEARS — COULD NOT E- RASE". The piano accompaniment includes a bass line with a prominent F# in the bass register and various chords and melodic fragments.

DREAMS — OF YOUR EM- BRACE — HOW COULD I FOR-

The second system continues the musical piece. The vocal line has lyrics "DREAMS — OF YOUR EM- BRACE — HOW COULD I FOR-". The piano accompaniment features more complex chordal textures and melodic lines in both hands.

GET? — GET? —

The third system concludes the piece with the lyrics "GET? — GET? —". The piano accompaniment includes a section with a fermata over a chord, and the vocal line has a long note with a fermata. The system ends with a double bar line.

Four empty musical staves are provided at the bottom of the page, consisting of two grand staves (treble and bass clefs) and two single treble clef staves.



Act I, Sc. 1.

Refrain of Waltz sung by Stephan.

HOW COULD I FORGET ?

How could I forget -

Once our eyes had met -

Dear one, tell me,

How could I forget ?

Ev'ry breeze that blew

Spoke to me of you -

How could I forget ?

Ev'ry song-bird seemed to me

To sing about you;

Ev'ry sunset seemed to be

An empty dream without you.

Years could not erase

Dreams of your embrace -

How could I forget ?