

Born near Warsaw, Poland, Frédéric Chopin (1810–1849) was a renowned Romantic composer and genius of the piano. His talent became obvious during his early childhood; he was performing concerts and composing polonaises, mazurkas and waltzes by the time he was eight. Chopin, who composed mostly piano music, contributed to making the piano a successful solo instrument. This beautifully haunting prelude is one of his better-known, and is often heard on concert stages throughout the world.

Prelude

Frédéric Chopin (1810–1849)
Op. 28, No. 4

Arr. Margaret Goldston

Slowly, expressively

The musical score is presented in four systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The first system begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and a fermata over the first measure. The second system is marked with a box containing the number 4 above the first measure. The third system is marked with a box containing the number 7 above the first measure. The fourth system is marked with a box containing the number 10 above the first measure. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and fingerings (e.g., 5, 3, 1, 4, 2, 4, 2, 4, 2, 4, 2, 5, 3, 5, 3, 5, 2, 3, 2, 4).

*Originally written in the key of E minor.

**Pedal is optional except in measures 41–44.

13

Musical score for measures 13-16. The right hand features a melodic line with a slur over measures 13-16, including a sharp sign (♯) in measure 16. The left hand provides a bass line with chords and fingerings: 2, 3, 2, 4, 2, 4.

17

Musical score for measures 17-20. The right hand has a melodic line with a slur and fingerings 3, 2, 3, 2. The left hand has a bass line with chords and fingerings 3, 5, 2.

21

Musical score for measures 21-24. The right hand has a melodic line with a slur and fingerings 1, 4, 3, 5. The left hand has a bass line with chords and fingerings 1, 4, 3. A *rit.* (ritardando) marking is present in measure 24.

25 *a tempo*

Musical score for measures 25-28. The right hand has a melodic line with a slur and a *mp* (mezzo-piano) dynamic marking. The left hand has a bass line with chords and a fingering 1, 3.