

Tess's Torch Song

As performed by Ella Mae Morse

Words and Music by Harold Arlen & Ted Koehler
Transcribed & adapted by Myles Collins

♩=110 : SWING

The musical score is arranged for a swing ensemble. It includes parts for Alto 1 & 2, Tenor 1 & 2, Baritone, Trumpet 1-4 (all marked 'CUP MUTE'), Trombone 1-4, Guitar, Piano, Bass, Drums, and Vocal. The key signature is three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and the time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into two systems. The first system contains measures 1-4, and the second system contains measures 5-8. A section marker 'A' is placed above the first measure of the second system. The vocal line begins in the second system with the lyrics 'I had a man, he was a good man.' The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords: D6, F#m7, G6, and A1s b9. The drums play a swing pattern with 'LOOSE H.H.' in the first system and 'CLOSED H.H.' in the second system. The guitar and piano parts are marked with a mezzo-forte (mp) dynamic.

I had a man, he was a good man.

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Tess's Torch Song

Alto 1

Alto 2

Tenor 1

Tenor 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Trombone 4

Guitar

Piano

Bass

Drums

Vocal

9

That is, you see, what I mean is I thought he was a good man. I has a friend, she was a good friend.

Tess's Torch Song

Alto 1

Alto 2

Tenor 1

Tenor 2

Baritone

Trumpet 1

Trumpet 2

Trumpet 3

Trumpet 4

Trombone 1

Trombone 2

Trombone 3

Trombone 4

Guitar

Piano

Bass

Drums

Vocal

17

I told my friend 'bout my man 'cos I thought she was a good friend. Life was swee-i. Did-n't I have my ma-n?