

Oedipus Rex

words and music by TOM LEHRER

Freely, with motion (in 2)

C Cmaj7 C7 C6 B \flat B \flat maj7

From the Bib - le to the pop - u - lar song, There's one theme that we

B \flat 7 B \flat 6 A \flat A \flat maj7 A \flat 7 A \flat 6 G Gmaj7 Gm7 \flat 5 G7,

find right a - long, Of all i - deals they hail as good, The most sub - lime is moth - er - hood. There

poco rit.

C Cmaj7 C7 C6 Bb Bbmaj7 Bb7 Bb6

was a man, though, who, it seems, Once carried this ideal to extremes, He

with motion

Lively, a tempo (in 2)

Ab Abmaj7 Ab7 Ab6 C Gdim

loved his mother and she loved him, And yet his story is rather

G7 C F7 C F7 C F7 G7 C G

grim: _____ There (His)

f


C F7 C G7

once lived a man named Oed-i-pus Rex, You may have heard about his odd complex, His
ri - vals— used to say quite a bit, That as a monarch he was most un - fit, But

mf

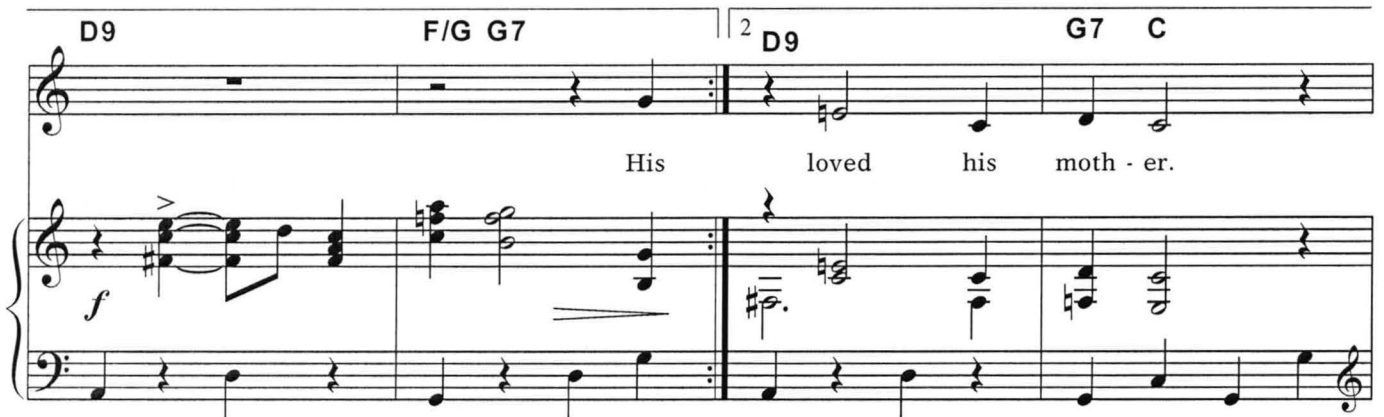
C F7 ¹ D9 G7

name ap - pears in Freud's in - dex, 'Cause he loved his moth - er.
still and all they had to ad - mit That he




D9 F/G G7 ² D9 G7 C

His loved his moth - er.



C F7 G7 C G+

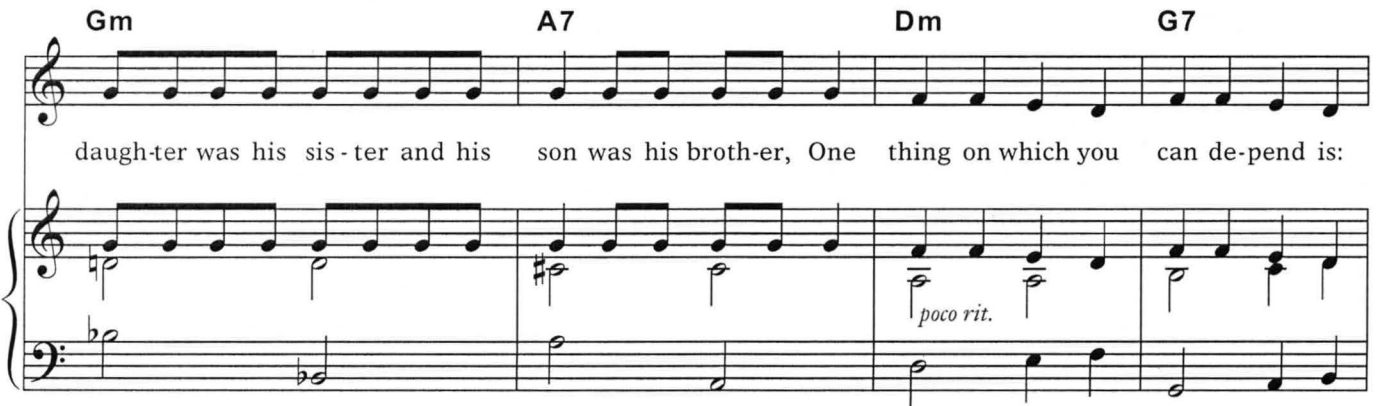
Yes, he loved his mother like no oth - er, His



Gm A7 Dm G7

daugh - ter was his sis - ter and his son was his broth - er, One thing on which you can de - pend is:

poco rit.



C C#dim G7 C F7

He sure knew who a boy's best friend is. When he found what he had done, He

a tempo

C G7 C F7

tore his eyes out one by one, A tragic end for a loyal son who

D9 G7 C

loved his mother.

C F7 G7 C So be

f *mp*

Freely, with motion

C Cmaj7 C7 C6 Bb Bbmaj7 Bb7 Bb6

sweet and kind to mother, now and then have a chat, Buy her candy or some flowers or a brand new hat, But

Ab Abmaj7 Ab7 Ab6 C Gdim G7

may-be you had bet-ter let it go at that, Or you may find your - self with a quite com -

mf

Detailed description: This system contains the first two measures of the piece. The vocal line starts with a half note 'may-be' and a quarter note 'you'. The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note bass line in the left hand and chords in the right hand. Chord symbols are placed above the staff: Ab, Abmaj7, Ab7, Ab6, C, Gdim, and G7. A dynamic marking of *mf* is placed below the piano staff.

C Gm6 A7 D7 G7

plex com - plex, And you may end up like Oed - i - pus,

f

Detailed description: This system contains measures 3 and 4. The vocal line continues with 'plex' and 'And you may end up like Oed - i - pus,'. The piano accompaniment continues with similar rhythmic patterns. Chord symbols are C, Gm6, A7, D7, and G7. A dynamic marking of *f* is placed below the piano staff.

D7 G7 D9 G7

I'd rath-er mar-ry a duck-billed pled - i - pus, Than end up like old Oed - i - pus

cresc.

Detailed description: This system contains measures 5 and 6. The vocal line continues with 'I'd rath-er mar-ry a duck-billed pled - i - pus, Than end up like old Oed - i - pus'. The piano accompaniment continues. Chord symbols are D7, G7, D9, and G7. A dynamic marking of *cresc.* is placed below the piano staff.

C F7 G7 C

Rex!

ff *sfz*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 7 and 8. The vocal line has a long note 'Rex!' followed by a rest. The piano accompaniment continues. Chord symbols are C, F7, G7, and C. Dynamic markings of *ff* and *sfz* are placed below the piano staff.