

STRING ALTERNATIVES SERIES

Li'l Darlin'

Neal Hefti

Arranged by Darol Anger

INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor Score	1
Violin I.....	8
Violin II.....	8
Viola.....	5
Cello.....	5
String Bass	5
Drumset (Optional)	1

Notes to the Conductor

Li'l Darlin' is one of the greatest arrangements that Neal Hefti wrote for the legendary Count Basie Big Band in the early 1950s. This tune exemplifies the classic Count Basie feeling: picture a vast, darkened dance hall with a beautiful hardwood floor that seems to go on for miles, filled with romantic couples dancing together very slowly; perhaps the last tune of the night. The mirror ball is rotating slowly, and the band seems to swing in slow motion. This is possibly the coolest, most relaxed piece of music by the coolest and most relaxed big band ever. Every member of the band knows that he has pretty much invented a whole style on his instrument, and they are all feeling just fine, very cool, and very...very...swinging. Remember that the key of E \flat major has a lot of flat notes: How many? Three, but sometimes we use a flat seventh note in the scale, so there are really four flatted notes. Name them and play the E \flat major scale up and down before starting this piece, just to get the ears and hands working together. We will be using our 4th fingers a lot for this chart, but we sure won't have to play anything too fast! The trick is to keep the relaxed groove and not speed up. This tune may sound better with mutes on all the instruments. When playing the melody, let every note in the first and second phrase have its own silence around it. Listen to a recording of the Count Basie Big Band or the Turtle Island String Quartet groove on this tune. Remember to ritard at the end of the chart and don't push on the solos.



Li'l Darlin'

CONDUCTOR SCORE

Duration - 4:15

Neal Hefti

Arranged by Darol Anger

Swing (♩ = 66)

Violins I

Violins II

Viola

Cello

String Bass

Drumset

f *mf*

pizz. Cm7 F7 Fm7 B^b7 E^b D^b C7

f Brushes

1 2 3 4

Vlins. I

Vlins. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Drumset

f *mf* *div.*

Cm7 Fm7 B^b7 Cm7 B^bm7^b9 E^b7

5 6 7 8

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Drumset

9 10 11 12

AbΔ Db7 Eb AbΔ Db7 Gm7 C7

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Drumset

13 14 15 16

F7 F7 Bb7 Db C7

17

Vlns. I *mf*

Vlns. II *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Cello *mf*

Str. Bass

Drumset

17 18 19 20

Cm7 Fm7 B^b7 E^b D^b C7

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Drumset

21 22 23 24

Cm7 Fm7 B^b7 C7 B^bm7^b9 E^b7

Vlns. I
Vlns. II
Vla.
Cello
Str. Bass
Drumset

AbΔ D♭7 Eb/C AbΔ D♭7 Eb Gm7

25 26 27 28

This block contains the first system of the musical score, covering measures 25 through 28. It includes staves for Violins I and II, Viola, Cello, String Bass, and Drumset. The key signature is two flats (Bb, Eb). The drumset part shows a consistent rhythmic pattern with a slash indicating a specific drum sound. Chord symbols are provided below the string bass staff.

Solo Vln.
Solo Vla.
Solo Cello

G7 C7
f
G7
G7 C7
f

29 30 31 32

This block contains the second system of the musical score, covering measures 29 through 32. It features solo parts for Violin, Viola, and Cello. The Solo Violin and Solo Cello parts begin in measure 29 with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The Solo Viola part is silent until measure 31. Chord symbols G7 and C7 are indicated above the Solo Violin staff.

Vlns. I
Vlns. II
Vla.
Cello
Str. Bass
Drumset

C7 Fm7 B♭7 Eb G7 C7

29 30 31 32

This block contains the third system of the musical score, covering measures 29 through 32. It includes staves for Violins I and II, Viola, Cello, String Bass, and Drumset. The key signature remains two flats. The drumset part continues with the same rhythmic pattern. Chord symbols are provided below the string bass staff.

Play as many times as there are soloists

33

Musical score for measures 33-36. Instruments include Solo Vln., Solo Vla., Solo Cello, Vlns. I & II, Vla., Cello, Str. Bass, and Drumset. Chords: Fm7, Bb7, Gm7, C7. Dynamics: *f*, *mf*. Includes *div.* markings and triplet notation.

Musical score for measures 37-40. Instruments include Solo Vln., Solo Vla., Solo Cello, Vlns. I & II, Vla., Cello, Str. Bass, and Drumset. Chords: Fm7, Bb7, Eb13, Eb7(b5). Dynamics: *mf*. Includes *div.* markings.

Solo Vln.

Solo Vla.

Solo Cello

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Drumset

A^bΔ D^b7 E^b V A^bΔ D^b7 Gm7 C7

A^bΔ D^b7 E^b V A^bΔ D^b7 Gm7 C7

A^bΔ D^b7 E^b V A^bΔ D^b7 Gm7 C7

A^bΔ D^b7 E^b A^bΔ D^b7 Gm7 C7

II % % % %

41 42 43 44

Solo Vln.

Solo Vla.

Solo Cello

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Drumset

F7 B^b7 D^b C7 V

F7 B^b7 D^b C7

F7 B^b7 D^b C7

F7 B^b7 D^b C7

F7 B^b7 D^b C7

II % % % %

45 46 47 48

49

Solo Vln. *Fm7 Bb7 Gm7 C7*

Solo Vla. *Fm7 Bb7 Gm7 C7*

Solo Cello *Fm7 Bb7 Gm7 C7*

Vlns. I *Fm7 Bb7 Gm7 C7*

Vlns. II *Fm7 Bb7 Gm7 C7*

Vla. *Fm7 Bb7 Gm7 C7*

Cello *Fm7 Bb7 Gm7 C7*

Str. Bass *Fm7 Bb7 Gm7 C7*

Drumset

49 50 51 52

Solo Vln. *Fm7 Bb7 Bbm7 Eb7(b5)*

Solo Vla. *Fm7 Bb7 Bbm7 Eb7(b5)*

Solo Cello *Fm7 Bb7 Bbm7 Eb7(b5)*

Vlns. I *Fm7 Bb7 Bbm7 Eb7(b5)*

Vlns. II *Fm7 Bb7 Bbm7 Eb7(b5)*

Vla. *Fm7 Bb7 Bbm7 Eb7(b5)*

Cello *Fm7 Bb7 Bbm7 Eb7(b5)*

Str. Bass *Fm7 Bb7 Bbm7 Eb7(b5)*

Drumset

Solo Vln. $A^{\flat}\Delta$ $D^{\flat}7$ E^{\flat} $A^{\flat}\Delta$ $D^{\flat}7$ $Gm7$ $C7$

Solo Vla. $A^{\flat}\Delta$ $D^{\flat}7$ E^{\flat} $A^{\flat}\Delta$ $D^{\flat}7$ $Gm7$ $C7$

Solo Cello $A^{\flat}\Delta$ $D^{\flat}7$ E^{\flat} $A^{\flat}\Delta$ $D^{\flat}7$ $Gm7$ $C7$

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass $A^{\flat}\Delta$ $D^{\flat}7$ E^{\flat} $A^{\flat}\Delta$ $D^{\flat}7$ $Gm7$ $C7$

Drumset

57 58 59 60

Solo Vln. $F7$ $Fm7$ $B^{\flat}7$ E^{\flat} $Gm7$ $C7$

Solo Vla. $F7$ $Fm7$ $B^{\flat}7$ E^{\flat} $Gm7$ $C7$

Solo Cello $F7$ $Fm7$ $B^{\flat}7$ E^{\flat} $Gm7$ $C7$

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass $F7$ $Fm7$ $B^{\flat}7$ E^{\flat} $Gm7$ $C7$

Drumset

65

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Drumset

f *mf*

Cm7 F7 Fm7 B^b7 E^b D^b C7

65 66 67 68

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Drumset

f *mf*

Cm7 Fm7 B^b7 Cm7 B^bm7^b9 E^b7

69 70 71 72

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Drumset

73 74 75 76

A^bΔ D^b7 E^b A^bΔ D^b7 Gm7 C7

Vlns. I

Vlns. II

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass

Drumset

77 78 79 80

F7 F7 B^b7 D^b C7

p

I
Vlns. *mf*

II
Vlns. *mf*

Vla. *mf*

Cello *mf*

Str. Bass *mf*
Cm7 Fm7 Bb7 Eb C7

Drumset

81 82 83 84

I
Vlns.

II
Vlns.

Vla.

Cello

Str. Bass
Cm7 Fm7 Bb7 C7 Bbm7b9 Eb7

Drumset

85 86 87 88

I
Vlns.
II
Vla.
Cello
Str. Bass
Drumset

89 90 91 92

I
Vlns.
II
Vla.
Cello
Str. Bass
Drumset

93 94 95 96

I
Vlns.
II
Vla.
Cello
Str. Bass
Drumset

F7 Fm7 Bb7 Eb Gm7 C7 F7

97 98 99 100 101

I
Vlns.
II
Vla.
Cello
Str. Bass
Drumset

Fm7 Bb7 Eb

102 103 104 105 106

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