



She's Got A Way

Billy Joel

🎵 Level 42/100 (Ambitious)

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SHE'S GOT A WAY

Words and Music by Billy Joel

From the album *Cold Spring Harbor*, originally released in 1972, re-released in 1983.

This is one of Billy Joel's most gentle and effective ballads. He sings with an engaging emotional immediacy while he accompanies himself on the piano with simple but effective patterns.

Figure 17 – Intro/Verse 1/Verse 2/Bridge/Verse 3

The piano part consists primarily of triads played with the right hand (in the alto range) on each beat, while the left hand plays the bass roots in octaves in whole notes.

Each verse ends with a deceptive cadence. Instead of going to the I chord (i.e. G major) in measure 11, which is what the ear expects, the deceptive cadence inserts two extra chords between the V and I chords— \flat VI ($E\flat$ maj7) and \flat VII (F add9). This style of deceptive cadence is considered standard in the cocktail piano repertoire and could be an influence from Joel's "Piano Man" days.

Fig. 17

Intro
Slow and steady ♩ = 72
G

Verse 0:07
G D/F# Em G7/D

1
She's got a way a - bout her. I

Piano
mf

5
C D C/E D/F# D
don't know what it is, but I know that I can't live with - out her.

The musical score is presented in two systems. The first system covers measures 1 through 4. Measure 1 is the start of the Intro, marked 'Slow and steady' with a tempo of 72 beats per minute. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The piano part features triads in the right hand and bass roots in octaves in the left hand. The vocal line begins in measure 2 with the lyrics 'She's got a way a - bout her. I'. The second system covers measures 5 through 8. Measure 5 begins with the lyrics 'don't know what it is, but I know that I can't live with - out her.'. The piano part continues with triads and bass roots. The vocal line continues with the lyrics. The score includes a large 'O' watermark in the center.