



And So It Goes

Billy Joel

🎵 Nivel 49/100 (Intermedio)

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AND SO IT GOES

Words and Music by Billy Joel

From the album *Storm Front*, released in 1989.

In many of Billy Joel's love songs, there is an underlying somber tone, a sense of insecurity or a fear of abandonment. "And So It Goes" has that tone—"And so it goes, and so it goes/And so will you soon I suppose." For Joel, love has a potentially sad side—"You can have my heart to break."

The music to "And So It Goes," however, is quite beautiful. It's a very slow waltz with a slightly weary lilt and plenty of *rubato*. This means that the music is played with freedom regarding tempo; i.e., the music is played "with feeling" and not necessarily with a strict beat.

This piece could be considered a predecessor to Joel's later classical compositions. The chords, which change on nearly every melodic note, seem very classical in nature.

Figure 4 – Intro/Verse 1/Verse 2/Bridge/Verse 3

The song makes generous use of chord inversions and added 9th chords. Note especially the voicings of the Cmaj7/E and Fadd9 chords in the first two measures. Joel knows how to take a standard chord and voice it for a rich and colorful sonority. The bridge features a chromatically descending bass line beginning at measure 25.



Fig. 4

Intro

Slow Ballad, with *rubato* (♩ = 66)

Piano C Cmaj7/E Fadd9 Cmaj7/E Fadd9 G Asus4 Am G/B C C/E Fmaj9 G C Cmaj7/E

5 Fadd9 Cmaj7/E Fadd9 G Asus4 Am G/B C Fmaj9 F/G C