



My Life

Billy Joel

♪ Niveau 49/100 (Ambitieux)

Word vandaag nog lid van OKTAV Premium!

Koop moeiteloos deze titel of ga gelijk voor een OKTAV Premium-abonnement. Hiermee geniet je van onbeperkte toegang tot onze volledige bladmuziekbibliotheek tegen één vast tarief – bovendien wordt onze collectie speciaal afgestemd op jouw vaardigheden.

[Meer leren](#)

MY LIFE

Words and Music by Billy Joel

One of Billy Joel's biggest hits, the upbeat pop song "My Life" is a manifesto to independence, delivered succinctly with the chorus line "I don't care what you say anymore, this is my life. Go ahead with your own life. Leave me alone." This is a gentle kiss-off to parents, or perhaps a controlling lover, and Joel gets his point across without anger or negativity. Much of the song is written in the first person, as Joel speaks directly to his oppressor, using terms like "I don't want you to tell me..." or "I don't care what you say..." as he leads to the uncompromising "you can speak your mind, but not on my time." Surely many people were inspired by this song to stand for what they believe in, and discount the sometimes ill-stated opinions of others.

Figure 36—Intro, Interlude, and Verse

"My Life" begins with a grooving introduction consisting of simple chords over a D pedal point. But before long, Joel reaches outside the key for some added color, particularly during the interlude, where nearly all the chords are borrowed—D9, C9, E^bmaj7/F, F7, and B^b.

Joel uses a chromatic, disco-style (no one was really immune to disco fever in '78) walk-up in measure 16 to set up the verse, which is firmly rooted back in D major.

Fig. 36

53	Full Band
54	Slow Demo: meas. 13-16

The musical score is divided into three sections: Intro, Interlude, and Verse. The Intro (measures 1-8) is marked 'Moderately' with a tempo of 126 and a dynamic of *mf*. It features a steady bass line and chords in the right hand: G/D, D G/D, and Em7/D D. The Interlude (measures 9-12) is marked 'D9', 'C9', 'E^bmaj7/F', 'F7', and 'B^b'. The Verse (measures 13-16) returns to the Intro's chord progression. A large watermark 'O' is overlaid on the score.