

The Boxer

Words and Music by
PAUL SIMON

Moderate tempo

C

I am just a poor boy. Though my

mf *mp*

Am **G**

sto - ry's sel - dom told, I have squan-dered my re - sis - tance for a

C

pock - et - ful of mum - bles, such are prom - is - es.

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Am G F

All lies and jest, still a man hears what he wants to hear,— And

The first system of the musical score features a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line is written in a single treble clef staff. The piano accompaniment consists of two staves: a right-hand treble clef staff and a left-hand bass clef staff. Above the vocal staff, three chord diagrams are provided: Am (A minor), G (G major), and F (F major). The lyrics are: "All lies and jest, still a man hears what he wants to hear,— And".

C G

dis - re - gards the rest.

The second system continues the musical score. The vocal line has a long note for the word "rest." followed by a horizontal line. The piano accompaniment continues with a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in the right hand and a steady bass line in the left hand. Above the vocal staff, two chord diagrams are provided: C (C major) and G (G major). The lyrics are: "dis - re - gards the rest.".

C

The third system shows the piano accompaniment continuing. The vocal line is silent, indicated by a whole rest in the treble clef staff. The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic pattern. Above the vocal staff, a chord diagram for C (C major) is provided.

When I left my home and my fam - i - ly,— I was

The fourth system features the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line begins with the lyrics: "When I left my home and my fam - i - ly,— I was". The piano accompaniment continues with the same rhythmic pattern. There are no chord diagrams above this system.

no more than a boy in the com - pa - ny of stran - gers in the

Am G

qui - et of a rail - way sta - tion run - ning scared,



Dm7 C

Lay - ing low, seek - ing out the poor - er quar - ters where the


Am C F




rag - ged peo - ple go, Look - ing for the plac - es on - ly they would

G F Em Dm


C  Am 




know. Lie - la - lie, Lie - la -




G  Am  G 

lie la lie - la - lie lie - la - lie Lie - la -

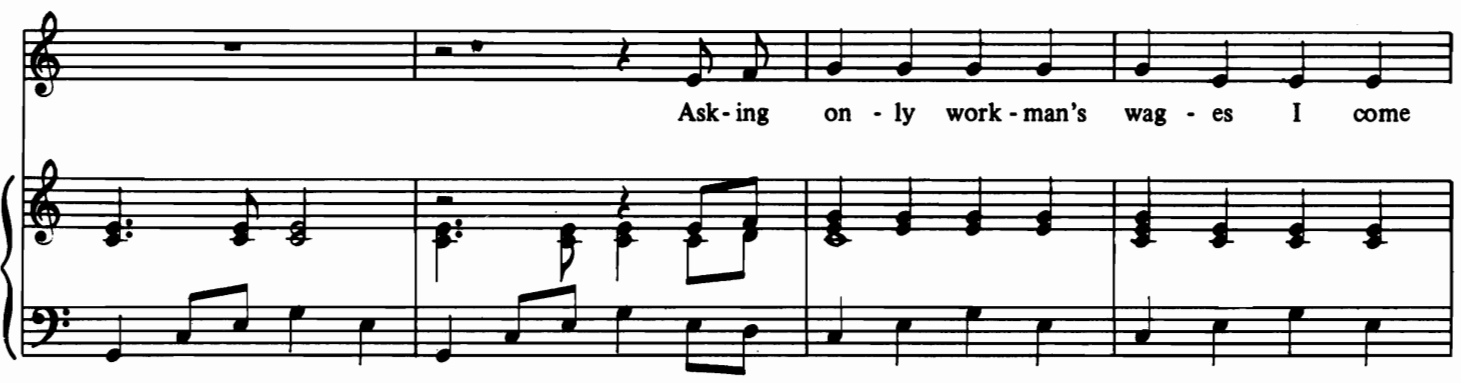


F  G  C 

lie la la la la Lie - la la la la lie. _____



Ask - ing on - ly work - man's wag - es I come



Am G

look - ing for a job, but I get no of - fers, _____ Just a

Dm7 C

come-on from the whores_ on Sev-enth Av - e - nue. _____

Am Dm7 G F

I do de - clare, there were times _____ when I was so lone - some I

C G

took some com - fort there. Ooo - la - la _____ la - la _____ la la. _____

C C

Then I'm lay - ing out my

G7 C Am G

win - ter clothes_ and wish - ing I was gone, — go - ing home

Dm7 G7 G C

Where the New York Cit - y win - ters are - n't bleed - ing me, —

Em Am

Lead - ing me, —

G C

go - ing home.

C

In the clear - ing stands a box - er, and a fight - er by his

Am G G7

trade, And he car - ries the re - mind - ers of ev - 'ry glove that

C Dm7 G7 C

laid him down - Or cut him till he cried - out in his an - ger and his shame,

Am G F C

"I am leav - ing, I am leav - ing." But the fight - er still re-mains...

G C G F C

Lie - la

Fade Am G Am

lie, Lie - la - lie la lie - la - lie Lie - la - lie

G F C

Lie - la lie la la la lie - la la la lie. Lie - la