

Ruth

III
3-3-2 Oh, thank you, ma'am

1 **Cut time** ♩ = 72 **A**

24 19

44 **B** *l'istesso tempo* ♩ = 72

22 *mf*

Hel - lo, my name is Ruth, how do you

70 **C** *slower* ♩ = 66 *still slower* ♩ = 60 *rit.* *A tempo* ♩ = 72

2 *f*

do? Ap-pears my luck ran

79 *slower* ♩ = 60 *A tempo* ♩ = 72 **D**

3 5 3 *mp*

out. And

92 *mf* 23

I from U - tah good sir.

119 **E** **F** *turning so she's plainly visible to Benjamin*

13 2 *f*

No, not to wor-ry, ma'am. I'm free to

136

go, free to pro - ceed. No man, no man my way im -

140 *ff* **G** *A tempo* ♩ = 72

28 4

pede!_____

dramatic ♩ = 60

Ben-ja-min! Is it Ben-ja-min? Mis-ter Bow-en, sir? No,



no! it can-not be! I left you home; I left you free with wives and fam-i-ly

H**Moderate** ♩ = 108

I took my leave that all would then be well, Good



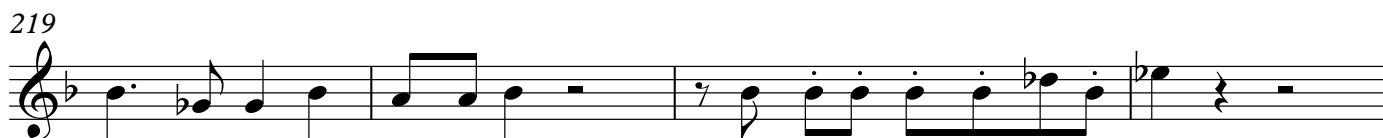
judg-ment, sir, has willed that I should go.

*moving to the front*

I thank you all, my sis-ters sweet,



and would your coun-sel here en-treat. This man has served three years for me, In



foul - est pen - i - ten - tia-ry. Should I for that send him a - way?



He did not know, he did not know, he did not know of my de - lay.



By chance this day our paths have crossed. Should I now let this chance be lost?

231 *mf* *mp*

He did not seek, pur - sue me here. I

234 *mf*

trust in him and do not fear, In - stead res - pect, in truth, re - vere.

237 **K** *mf*

Per - haps you think me but a fool, A pro - se - lyte, a priest -

246 *f* *mp*

hood tool. But hear me out. I'll tell my tale, And how I

251 *mf* *mf*

came to wes - tern vale. In New York Ci - ty I was born. Then

256 *f*

few years since I met a man, From wes - tern hills he came, he tar - ried,

260 *mf*

— Soon af - ter we then were mar - ried. He tar - ried, soon af - ter we then were mar -

264 **L** *f* *ff* *mf* *f*
 - ried. And then a fa-tal ac-ci-dent, He died, my life in pie-ces rent,

269 *mf* *f* *mp*
 in pie-ces rent, my life in pie-ces, in pie-ces rent. With mo-ther new, Na-o-mi

273 *mf*
 sweet, By train I tra-veled west to meet My re-la-tives in Salt Lake Ci-ty—

277 *mf*
 Yes that they did. I thought they would. So held my

287 *mp* *mf*
 ground as best I could. I went to work. I

M 291 *f* *mf* *f*
 mo-deled dress - ses And heed-ed not their male ad-van - ces.

296 *mp* *mf*
 A sin-gle girl, I made my way, As fed' ral mar-shals came to prey On

300 *f* *mf*
 ma-ny men of that fair ci - ty. Per- haps, but there was much to pi - ty,

303 *f*

As men were tried and sent to pri-son. To learn,'twas said a hard - learned les-son.

306 *mp* **slower** ♩ = 104 **rit.** **slower** ♩ = 80 **rit.**

And yet, hard it was__ for wo-men bold, Who took the reigns of each house-

310 *p* **A tempo** ♩ = 80 *mp* **Moderate** ♩ = 108

hold. O'er toil ex-ces-sive backs were bent, As em-pty days their men-folk spent._____

315 **11** **N** *mp*

For months be-fore he was in hid-ing, Day in, day

328 *mf* **2**

out, in-ces-sant rid-ing. At his re-quest I came disguised. My com-ing

334 *mf* *f*

tho___ was ill-ad-vised, For sud-den-ly the feds were 'round us, They

338 *ff* **5**

cursed and then they tied and bound us.

345 *mp* O

In court of law, a-fore con - vinced, — They made me tes - ti - fy a -

349 *mf* *f*

gainst Him there, a pri - so - ner of love In all — the a-go-ny there - of! — A-

A tempo ♩ = 108

354 *mf* *rit.* *mp*

las, — a - las, — what had I done? A-las, he could no lon-ger run. Then there I

358

sat so help-less - ly, — In shame and tears and mi-se - ry. — He was a pri - so - ner of

363 *mf* *mp*

love, and I — in a-go-ny there - of! —