

Dear Harry I send you this piece  
of music, not because I think it is  
pretty, I never heard it, I like the name

Lucile

To  
CHAS. C. CONVERSE, ESQ.

Charles Dickens

LAST SONG  
(AUTUMN LEAVES)  
MUSIC BY

LESTAVESE



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CHARLES DICKENS' LAST SONG,

3

"AUTUMN LEAVES."

Music by Lesta Vesé.

*AFFETTUOSO.*

*p* *rit e dim.* *pp*

The piano introduction consists of two staves. The right hand features a melodic line with dotted rhythms and grace notes, while the left hand provides a steady accompaniment of eighth notes. The piece begins in a minor key and ends with a *pp* (pianissimo) dynamic.

With — er'd leaves, dead, with — er'd leaves, that fly be — fore the  
I. Au — tumn leaves, sad Au — tumn leaves, lie strewn a — round me

*p* *p* *cres.*

The first system of the song features a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in a minor key and includes the lyrics. The piano accompaniment consists of a steady eighth-note pattern in the left hand and a more melodic line in the right hand. Dynamics include *p* (piano) and *cres.* (crescendo).

gale; With — er'd leaves, dead, with — er'd leaves, ye  
here; Au — tumn leaves, cold Au — tumn leaves, how

*p* *p*

The second system continues the vocal and piano accompaniment. The vocal line includes the lyrics. The piano accompaniment maintains the eighth-note accompaniment in the left hand. Dynamics include *p* (piano).

tell a mourn — ful tale, *mf* Of love once true, and friends once  
sad, how cold, how drear! How like the hopes of childhood's

*ritard e dim.* *mf* *mf*

The third system concludes the vocal and piano accompaniment. The vocal line includes the lyrics. The piano accompaniment features a *ritard e dim.* (ritardando e diminuendo) section. Dynamics include *mf* (mezzo-forte).

kind, And hap - py mo - ments fled; *f* Dis -  
 day, Thick clust'ring on the bough! How

pers'd by eve'ry breath of wind, For - got - ten, chang'd or  
 like those hopes of thine de - cay, How fa - ded are they  
*cres.* *p* *rit e dim.*

dead! Au - tumn leaves, &c.  
 now! Au - tumn leaves, sad Au - tumn leaves, lie strewn a - round me  
*p*

here; Autumn leaves, cold Autumn leaves, how sad how, cold, how  
*f cres.* *p* *rit e dim.*

drear!

CHORUS. ad lib.

Air.  
Alto.  
Tenor.  
Bass.  
Piano.

Autumn leaves, sad Autumn leaves, lie strewn around me here;

Autumn leaves, sad Autumn leaves, lie strewn around me here;

Autumn leaves, cold Autumn leaves, how sad, how cold, how drear!

Autumn leaves, cold Autumn leaves, how sad, how cold, how drear!

Repeat. *pp*