

Autumn Leaves Recorder Quartet

R0046v2

Joseph Kosma (1945)

Tempo: ♩ = 100

4

Descant

Tr.

Ten.

Bass

8

12

8

12

8

12

8

12

Desc

Tr.

Ten.

Bass

16

20

16

20

16

20

16

20

Desc

Tr.

Ten.

Bass

Musical score for measures 24-32. The score is written for four parts: Descending (Desc), Treble (Tr.), Tenor (Ten.), and Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#). Measure numbers 24, 28, and 32 are indicated above the staff lines. The Desc part features a melodic line with a long note at the end of measure 32. The Tr., Ten., and Bass parts provide harmonic support with various rhythmic patterns.

Musical score for measures 36-40. The score is written for four parts: Descending (Desc), Treble (Tr.), Tenor (Ten.), and Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#). Measure numbers 36 and 40 are indicated above the staff lines. The Desc part has a melodic line with a long note at the end of measure 40. The Tr., Ten., and Bass parts provide harmonic support with various rhythmic patterns.

Musical score for measures 44-48. The score is written for four parts: Descending (Desc), Treble (Tr.), Tenor (Ten.), and Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#). Measure numbers 44 and 48 are indicated above the staff lines. The Desc part has a melodic line with a long note at the end of measure 48. The Tr., Ten., and Bass parts provide harmonic support with various rhythmic patterns.

Lyrics:

The falling leaves
Drift by my window
The autumn leaves
Of red and gold
I see your lips
The summer kisses
The sunburned hands
I used to hold

Since you went away
The days grow long
And soon I'll hear
Old winter's song
But I miss you most of all, my darling
When autumn leaves start to fall

Since you went away
The days grow long
And soon I'll hear
Old winter's song
But I miss you most of all, my darling
When autumn leaves start to fall
Yes, I miss you most of all, my darling
When autumn leaves start to fall

"Autumn Leaves" is a song composed by the Hungarian Joseph Kosma in 1945, set to French lyrics by Jacques Prévert, "Les Feuilles mortes", and translated into English by Johnny Mercer in 1949.

An instrumental version by pianist Roger Williams became a number one U.S. hit in 1955. It has since become a Jazz classic (and well worth study for that alone) and been covered by well over 1000 recording artists, not least Eva Cassidy, Nat King Cole, Frank Sinatra, Doris Day and Eric Clapton.

I have never quite understood why "the days grow long" as winter approaches. The nights do. I put this down to poetic licence, and the feeling that the days drag, and feel longer.

However, the song holds a special place in my heart, as does a girl I sang it with, She died in the autumn of 1976.

RL