

The Wallet

Based on the short story
by Andrew McCuaig

Libretto and Music by Aaron Siegel

♩. = 65 **Night**

A dark night with headlights shimmering in the distance.

A lone man stands in a toll booth, giving change to passing cars.

The musical score is arranged in a grand staff with seven parts. The vocal parts (Soprano, Mezzo-soprano, Baritone) are currently silent, indicated by horizontal lines. The instrumental parts are as follows:

- Flute:** Plays a melodic line with a "lip bend" instruction. The dynamics range from *p* to *f*.
- Violoncello:** Plays a rhythmic accompaniment with a "arco" instruction. The dynamics are marked *p < f*.
- Piano:** Provides harmonic support with chords in the right hand and a moving bass line in the left hand. The dynamics range from *p* to *f*.
- Bass:** Plays a rhythmic accompaniment with a "arco" instruction. The dynamics are marked *p < f*.

6

Fl.

Vc.

Pno.

Bs.



12

Fl.

Vc.

Pno.

Bs.

18

Fl.

Vc.

Pno.

Bs.

f *p < f* *p < f*

mp

pizz.

p < f *p < f* *mp*

25

Bar.

Fl.

Vc.

Pno.

Bs.

mf

A slow night. Twelve cars to - tal.

4 31

Bar. *f* On - ly two more mi- nutes. and I'll be off. Un - less I

Fl.

Vc. *mf* Un - less I

Pno.

Bs.

37 **B**

Bar. *mf* stay. to see E- laine. I swear she smiled _____ last week. when she *mf* picks up wallet

sharp interruptions

Fl. *mf*

Vc. *mp* stay. to see E- laine. I swear she smiled _____ last week. when she

Pno. *mp*

Bs. *mp*

43 *winks at audience* *puts wallet down on desk* *f turns to take a toll* 5

Bar. found my wal - let. Reach and grab and turn_____ and ga - ther.

Fl.

Vc. found my wal - let. *mf* Reach and grab and turn_____ and ga - ther. *f*

Pno.

Bs.

49 *Elaine runs onstage* *mf*

M-S. I'm

Bar. Turn and reach. Good night. *mf* Speaking:
Where is she
anyway?

Pno.

Bs.

6 55 **C Elaine and Troy** *goes to get in the toll booth.*

M-S. *here.* *So-rry I'm late.* *Let me in - to the booth,* *Troy.*

Bar. *blocks her way* *looks confused* *mf*

Fl.

Vc. *Oh, right.*

Pno. *mf*

Bs. *mf*

61 *ff*

M-S. *Get Out!*

Bar. *goes to leave* *brushes Elaine with his hands as he slides past* *Get Out!*

Fl. *Get Out!*

Vc. *sharp interruptions* *mp* *mf* *ff*

Pno.

Bs.

67 *mf* ³ *surprised* See you to-mo - rrow. *mf* looks at wallet ³ *leers at audience*

Bar. Sure. See you to-mo - rrow.

Fl. *mf* See ³ you to - mo - rrow.

Vc. *f* *mf* *f* *mp*

Pno.

Bs.

73 *f* *At work, Troy!* *runs off stage* *Puts her purse down and notices wallet. Thinks about going after Troy, but doesn't.*

Bar. *At work, Troy!*

Fl. *f* *At work, Troy!*

Vc. *mf* *p*

Pno.

Bs.

8

79

D Elaine

M-S. *mf* A - no-ther night _____ in the booth. I hope it's a quick one. When

Fl. *mf* A - no-ther night _____ in the booth. *f* *mf* I hope it's a quick one. *f* *mf* When

Vc. _____

Pno. _____

Bs. _____



88

M-S. *f* car a-fter car _____ comes, in a rhy- thm. *f* Reach and grab and turn and ga- ther. *mf* No

Fl. *f* *mf* car a- fter car _____ comes, *f* in a rhy- thm. *f* *p* *f* *mf* No

Vc. _____

Pno. _____

Bs. _____

97

M-S. *mf*
time to think, no time to bo-ther. When it's slow, I feel low, and a-lone...

Fl. *mf*
time to think, no time to bo-ther.

Vc.

Pno. *p* *mf*

Bs. *p* *arco* *mf*

109 **E** ♩.=65 Elaine's Aria

M-S. *mp*
Here in this toll - booth, the world pa - sses by. each

Fl.

Vc.

Pno. *mf* *mp*

Bs.

F

117

M-S. *mf*
 life in it's own way, all pa - ssing by. I give them their change, a ti - cket and change while

Fl.

Vc.

Pno. *mf*

Bs. *arco*
mf



125

M-S. *mp* **G**
 I work for hours, they drive a - gain. In my mind when I drive, the

Fl.

Vc. *p*

Pno. *mp*

Bs. *pizz.*
mp

133

M-S. *gate is a door, and I pass through it watching the night and much more.*

Fl. *p*

Vc.

Pno.

Bs.

141

M-S. **H** *f* *the lights are like stars, and I'm in the sky,*

Fl. *f*

Vc. *f*

Pno. *f*

Bs. *f*

149

M-S. floa - ting like fire - flies, dri - fting in time.

Fl.

Vc.

Pno.

Bs.

157

M-S. In - stead I am her, the world pa - sses

Fl.

Vc.

Pno. *mp*

Bs.

I

166

M-S. *by. each life in it's own way, all pa - ssing by.* Speaking:
Passing by...

Fl.

Vc.

Pno.

Bs.

174 **J** **Night** *goes back to collecting tolls*

M-S. *Reach and grab and turn and*

Fl. *lip bend* *p* *mf*

Vc. *p < f* *p < f* *p < f* *p < f* *p < f* *p < f* *p < f* *p < f*

Pno. *p* *arco*

Bs. *p < f* *p < f* *p < f* *p < f* *p < f* *p < f* *p < f* *p < f*

183

M-S. ga - ther. Reach and grab and turn and ga - ther.

Fl. *mf* *mf*

Vc. *p < f* *p < f* *p < f* *p < f* *p < f* *p < f* *p < f*

Pno.

Bs. *p < f* *p < f* *p < f* *p < f* *p < f* *p < f*



K

♩ = 120 **Elaine and The Woman**

A car approaches, weaving and screeching.

The driver, a young woman makes no move to pay her toll.

191

S.

M-S. *cheerfully* *mf*
Good

Fl.

Vc.

Pno. *mp*

Bs. *mp*
Pizz.

200

desperate f

S. I need mo-ney. *Steps back and reaches gently for the 'safety button' under the counter.*

M-S. Morn - ing. You mean you

Fl.

Vc.

Pno.

Bs.

206

S. No, I mean_ I need mo-ney.

M-S. don't have the toll?

Fl.

Vc.

Pno.

Bs.

16 212 **L** ♩ = 45 The Woman's Aria

S. *mp*
Back there in my world, he hit me.

Fl.

Vc. *ff* *mp*

Pno. *ff* *mp*

Bs. *arco* *ff* *mp*

S. *mf* *f*
Night after night, slapped and a - bused My girls in the back - seat here, scared and con-fused.

Fl.

Vc. *mp* *mf* *ff*

Pno. *mf* *ff*

Bs. *mf* *ff*

226

M

mp

S. *mp*
 Burned in - to their eyes, their arms, my cheek. are the sto - ries we lived. Bro-ken

Fl.

Vc. *sub. mf* *mp*

Pno. *sub. mf* *mp*

Bs. *sub. mf* *mp*



232

S. *f*
 glass on the floor, Screa-ming and swing ing we had to leave, and we did. That was our world pas-sing by. Not a lip bends

Fl. *mf*

Vc. *f*

Pno. *f*

Bs. *f*

18 238

S. *mf*
dream or a wish, no-thing bright in our eyes. Just the hard - ness of stone, and they ache, dull and brown.

Fl. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

Pno. *mf*

Bs. *mf*

245

S. *ff*
I need mo - ney, I said. Give me the mo ney, now.

Fl. flutter tounge *ff*

Vc. *ff*

Pno. *ff*

Bs. *ff*

N The Wallet

G. P.

251

S.

*Speechless, takes her
hand off the 'safety button.
Hesitates, then reaches for
Troy's wallet.*

*Fumbling while
counting the money.*

*Speaking: Twenty,
Forty, Sixty, Eighty,
Ninety-Six*

M-S.

Fl.

Vc.

Pno.

Bs.



259

S.

*Takes the money
and speeds away.*

*Hands the money
to the woman.*

M-S.

Fl.

Vc.

Pno.

Bs.

let ring

mf

mf

Red.

O ♩. = 80 **Duet**

20 266

S. *f*
This mo ney will last the night. A

M-S.

Fl. *f* soloistically

Vc. *f*

Pno. *f*

Bs. *pizz.* *f*

274

S. warm meal for three, a safe place to sleep. *mf*

M-S. That

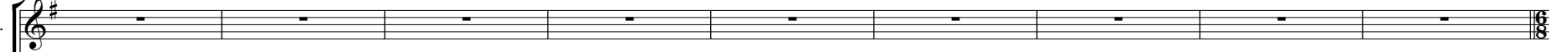
Fl. *mf*

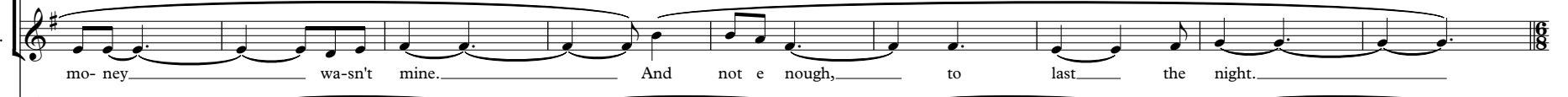
Vc. *mf*


Pno. *mf*


Bs. *mf*

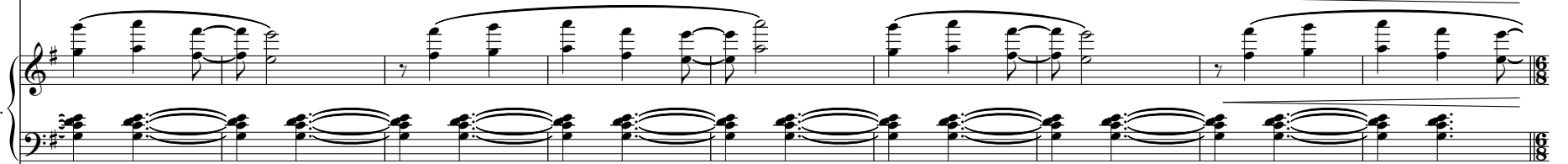
283


S. 

M-S. 

Fl. 

Vc. 

Pno. 

Bs. 

292

S. 

M-S. 

Fl. 

Vc. 

Pno. 

Bs. 

22 300

S. of her own sur - prise.

M-S. Go on, li - ttle eyes. Qui - et and a -

Fl. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

Pno. *mf*

Bs. *mf*

309

S.

M-S. lone. Pa - ssing through the night, like fi - re-flies, glow - ing stones.

Fl.

Vc.

Pno.

Bs.

P

318

f

S. *f* Glow-ing stones, not a - lone. Glow - ing stones, not a - lone.

M-S. *f* All a-lone glow - ing stones. All a-lone glow - ing

Fl. *f*

Vc. *f*

Pno. *f*

Bs. *f*

326

S. Glow - ing stones. Glow - ing stones.

M-S. stones. Glow-ing stones. Glow-ing stones.

Fl.

Vc.

Pno.

Bs.

24 333 *mp*

S. *mp* Glow - - - ing stones.

M-S. *mp* Glow - - - ing stones.

Fl. *mp*

Vc. *mp*

Pno. *mp*

Bs. *mp*

339 *rit.*

S.

M-S.

Fl.

Vc.

Pno. *p*

Bs. *p*