

# TAKE ME OR LEAVE ME

from *RENT*

Words and Music by  
JONATHAN LARSON

Moderately bright (♩ = ♪<sup>3</sup>)

Chords: F, Gm, Am, Bb, Am, Gm, F, Gm, F

Tempo: Moderately bright (♩ = ♪<sup>3</sup>)

Dynamic: *mf*

Chords: Eb, Bb, F, Gm, Am, Bb, Am, Gm

Vocal lyrics:  
Ev-'ry sin-gle day — I walk down the street,  
A ti - ger in a cage — can nev - er see the sun.

Chords: F, Eb, Bb, F, Gm, Am

Vocal lyrics:  
I hear peo - ple say ba - by, — so sweet. Ev - er since pu-ber - ty, —  
This di - va needs her stage, ba - by. Let's have fun! You are the one I choose. —

Copyright © 1996 FINSTER & LUCY MUSIC LTD. CO.  
All Rights Controlled and Administered by UNIVERSAL MUSIC CORP.  
All Rights Reserved Used by Permission

B♭ Am Gm F E♭ F

ev - 'ry - bod - y <sup>3</sup> stares \_ at me. Boys, girls, I can't help it, ba - by. So be  
Folks would kill to fill \_ your shoes. You love the lime-light too, now, ba - by. So be

Dm7 Am7 B♭ F/A Gm7 F/A B♭

kind, \_ and don't lose your mind. \_\_\_\_\_ Just re - mem - ber that I'm your  
mine, \_ and don't waste my time, \_\_\_\_\_ cry - in', "Oh, hon - ey bear, are you still my

F/C C F E♭ B♭

ba - by. }  
ba - by?" } Take me for what I am, \_\_\_\_\_

F E♭ B♭ B♭/C Dm7 Am7

who I was meant to be. \_\_\_\_\_ And if you \_\_\_\_\_

To Coda

Bb F/A Gm7 Bb/C 1 F Gm Am

— give a damn, take me, ba - by, or leave me.

Detailed description: This system contains the first three measures of the piece. The guitar part features chords Bb, F/A, Gm7, Bb/C, F, Gm, and Am. The piano accompaniment includes triplets in both the right and left hands. The vocal line has lyrics: "— give a damn, take me, ba - by, or leave me."

Bb Am Gm F Gm F Eb Bb

Take me, ba - by, or leave me.

Detailed description: This system contains the next three measures. The guitar part features chords Bb, Am, Gm, F, Gm, F, Eb, and Bb. The piano accompaniment continues with triplets. The vocal line has lyrics: "Take me, ba - by, or leave me."

2 F Bb7 F7

or leave me. No way — can I be what I'm not.

Detailed description: This system contains the next three measures. The guitar part features chords F, Bb7, and F7. The piano accompaniment continues with triplets. The vocal line has lyrics: "or leave me. No way — can I be what I'm not."

Bb7 F7 Bb7

But, hey, don't you want your girl hot? Oh, don't fight, —

Detailed description: This system contains the final three measures. The guitar part features chords Bb7, F7, and Bb7. The piano accompaniment continues with triplets. The vocal line has lyrics: "But, hey, don't you want your girl hot? Oh, don't fight, —"

don't lose your head, \_\_\_\_\_ 'cause ev - 'ry night, who's \_\_\_\_\_ in your bed? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Who? \_\_\_\_\_ Who's \_\_\_\_\_

in your bed? \_\_\_\_\_ *(Spoken:) Kiss, pookie.* It won't work. I \_\_\_\_\_ look be - fore I leap.

I love mar-gins and dis - ci - pline. \_ I make lists in my sleep, ba - by. What's my

F Gm Am Bb Am Gm F

sin? Nev-er quit, I fol-low through. I hate mess, but I love \_\_\_\_\_ you. —What to do with my im-promptu,

Eb F Dm7 Am7 Bb F/A

ba - by? — So be wise, - 'cause this girl — sat - is - fies. \_\_\_\_\_ You got a

Gm F/A Bb F/C C CODA F

**D.S. al Coda**

prize, but don't com-pro-mise. You're one luck - y ba - by. or leave me.

Bb7 F Bb7

That's it, — the straw that breaks my back. I quit, —

F Bb7 Dm7

un - less you take \_\_\_\_\_ it back. Wom - en, \_\_\_\_\_ what is it a - bout them?

G7 C7

Can't live \_\_\_\_\_ with them or with - out them. \_\_\_\_\_

G F C G F

Take me for what I am, \_\_\_\_\_ who I was \_\_\_\_\_ meant to

C Em Bm C7 G/B

be. \_\_\_\_\_ And if you \_\_\_\_\_ give a damn, \_\_\_\_\_

Am7 C/D Em7 D

take me, ba - by, or leave me.

C G/B Am7 C G/B

Take me, ba - by,

Am7 C/D G Am Bm

or leave me.

N.C.

C Bm Am G Am G F G

Guess I'm leav - in'. I'm gone!