

# IF I COULD TURN BACK THE HANDS OF TIME

Words and Music by  
R. KELLY

Freely, with feeling





First system of the musical score. It features a guitar part with five chords: G, Em, C, Dsus, and D. The piano accompaniment is in 4/4 time, starting with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The key signature is one sharp (F#).



Second system of the musical score, featuring the vocal melody and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "How did I ever let you slip a - way, nev - er". The piano accompaniment continues with a steady bass line.

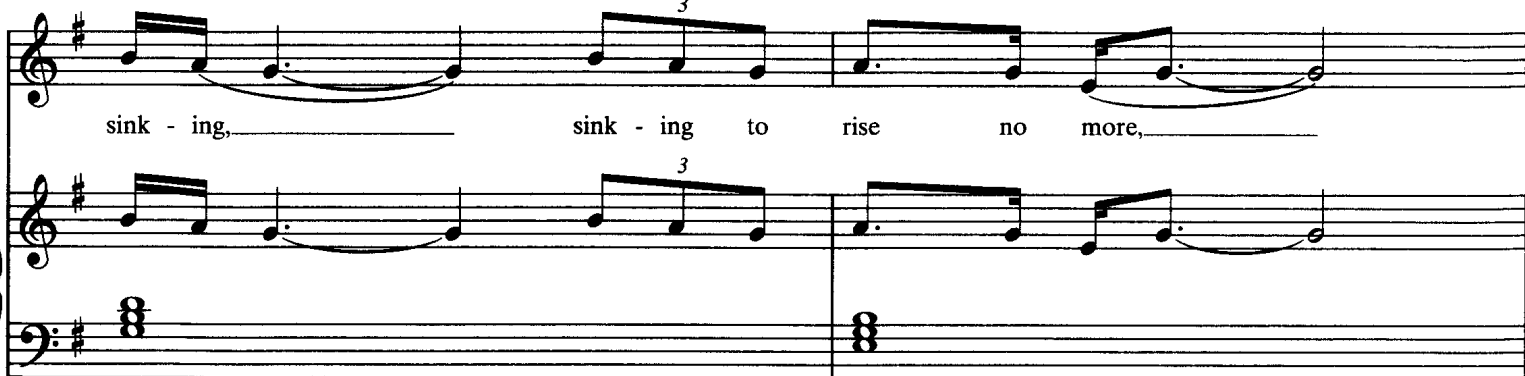





Third system of the musical score, featuring the vocal melody and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "know - ing I'd be sing - ing this song some - day? And now I'm". The piano accompaniment continues with a steady bass line.

G  Em 

sink - ing, sink - ing to rise no more,

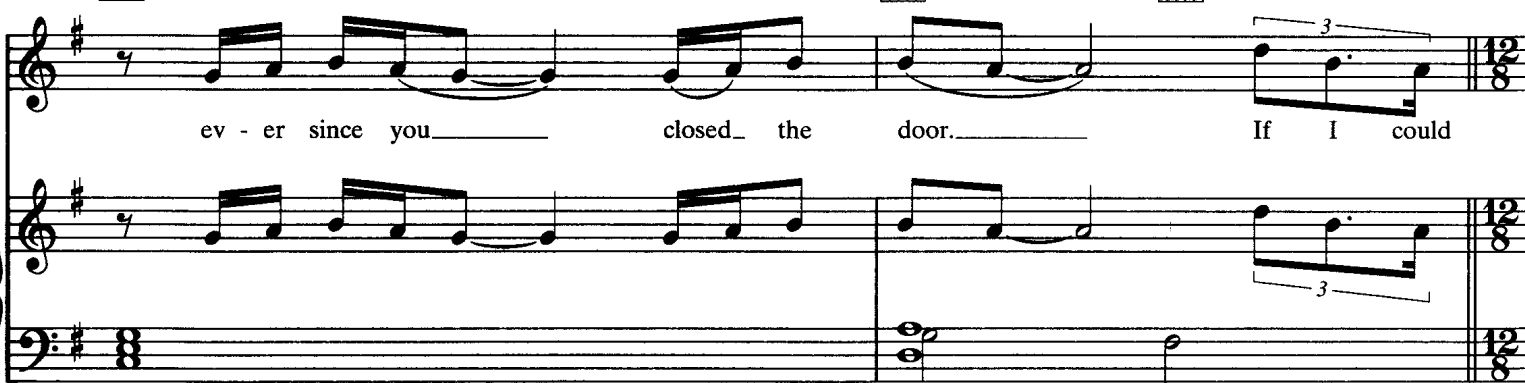
3



C  Dsus  D 



ev - er since you closed the door. If I could

3



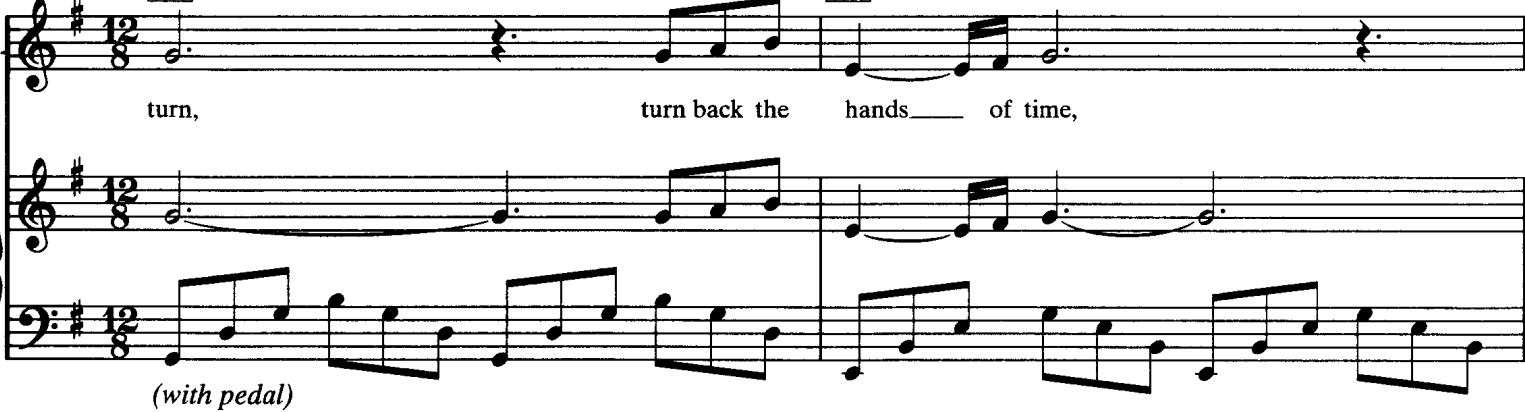
♩ Smoothly J. = 53



Chorus:

G  Em 


turn, turn back the hands of time,

(with pedal)



C  Dsus 

then, my dar - ling, you'd still be mine. If I





... could turn, \_\_\_\_\_ turn back the hands \_\_\_\_\_ of time, \_\_\_\_\_ then, \_\_\_\_\_



To Coda I  $\oplus$  Dsus  
 To Coda II  $\oplus\oplus$



dar - ling, you'd, \_\_\_\_\_ you'd still be mine. \_\_\_\_\_



Fun-ny, \_\_\_\_\_ fun-ny how time goes by



and bless - ings \_\_\_\_\_ are missed \_\_\_\_\_ in the wink \_\_\_\_\_ of an eye. \_\_\_\_\_ Woah, \_\_\_\_\_ why,



oh, why, oh, why should one have to go on suf-fer-ing when ev-er-



y day I plead, "Please come back to me"?

*♩ Coda I*

*D.S. al Coda I*



If I could

mine. And

*Bridge:*



you had e-nough love for the both of us, but



I, \_\_\_\_\_ I, \_\_\_\_\_ I did you wrong. \_\_\_\_\_ I ad-mit I did, \_\_\_\_\_ but



now \_\_\_\_\_ I'm fac - ing the rest of my life a - lone. \_\_\_\_\_

**Coda II**

Dsus



*D.S. al Coda II*

Woah, \_\_\_\_\_ if I \_\_\_\_\_ could

mine. \_\_\_\_\_ 1.Oh, I'd

**Vamp:**



nev-er hurt you, \_\_\_\_\_ nev-er do you wrong, \_\_\_\_\_ and nev-er  
 (If I could turn back.) (If I could turn back.)

2.3.4.5. See additional lyrics

1.2.3.4.

C      Dsus      D

leave your side...      Turn back the,      the hands...      2. There'd be noth-in' I would-n't

(If I could turn back\_ the hands. \_\_\_\_\_ )

5.

Dsus      G

hands. \_\_\_\_\_ )      love      you..

(If I could turn back.)

*Repeat ad lib. and fade*

Em      C      Dsus      D

(If I could turn back.)      (If I could turn back\_ the hands. \_\_\_\_\_ )

- Vamp:*
2. There'd be nothing I wouldn't do for you,  
Forever honest and true to you.  
If you accept me back in your heart, I love you.
  3. Woah, that would be my will.  
Darlin', I'm begging you to take me by the hands.
  4. I'm goin' down, yes, I am.  
Down on my bended knee, yeah.  
And I'm gonna be right there until you return to me.
  5. Woah, if I could just turn back that little clock on the wall,  
Then I'd come to realize how much I love you.