

The Purest Kind of a Guy

("Joe's Birthday Song" from *No for an Answer*)

As Sung by Paul Robeson

Marc Blitzstein

Allegro *(spoken)* I wish to sing a song
about a certain kind of a guy. **Vivace**

f *f*

5 *allargando*

f *dim molto*

Allegro moderato
mf

8 I ain't a read-in' man; I ain't a

p

10

think-in' man, an eat-in', drink-in' man when I can

12

get it to eat and drink. I ain't the suf-fer kind; I ain't the

14

rough-er kind; I ain't the buf-fer kind; I'm just a

16 *mf*

hap-py-go-luck-y gink.— But one thing I have got; I got a ex-tra sense. I

mf

rall. *a tempo*

19

know what guys is like. I know what makes 'em click. I

rall. *a tempo*

21 *f* *colla voce* *Slow*

know what makes 'em tick. And when a man's ok-ay, I know it a mile a - way.—

f *colla voce*

24 *a tempo*
mf

There's the kind of man, _____ when he pass-es by, _____ I can tell that

mf
a tempo

27 *mf*

man's _____ the pur-est kind of a guy. _____ Black or white or

mf

29

tan _____ ain't the rea - son why _____ I will know that

31

man's _____ the pur-est kind of a guy. _____ Go on and

33

ask me how I can be cer-tain, _____ how I can pick him out like a shot. _____ And he will

35

nev-er up - set my plot _____ by act-in' dirt-y and sly _____ like the u - su - al guy _____ in a

37 *poco rall.*

spot. Well, I don't know how I know that I

colla voce

38 *a tempo*
mf

know, but I know he will not! How he says hel - lo, how he says good -

mf
a tempo

40

bye, how he winks his eye will show the pur-est kind of a guy.

mf
a tempo

42 *f*

Though he's ea - sy go - in' you'll find that he

44 *poco rall.* *mf*

knows his mind. — That's the pur - est kind — of a guy. Our lit - tle

46 *mp scherzando*

pride and joy, — our lit - tle ba - by boy, — he's kind - a

48

look-in' up. He's get-tin' big. Oh me, oh my, he's got a

50

birth - day. It is his birth - day. It is the

mp

52

best day for the pur-est kind of a guy. Take

cresc.

Broad

54

it from one who knows, and don't make no mis-take, when - ev - er there are Joes, the

f

This system contains three measures of music. The vocal line is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note. The piano accompaniment is in grand staff (treble and bass clefs) with a key signature of one sharp. It features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note. The first measure is marked with a forte (*f*) dynamic.

Maestoso

57

world is on the make! And so, to - night, is why we give a hel -

ff

This system contains two measures of music. The vocal line is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp. It features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note. The piano accompaniment is in grand staff with a key signature of one sharp. It features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note. The first measure is marked with a fortissimo (*ff*) dynamic. The second measure has a triplet of eighth notes.

59

lo to the pur - est kind of a guy.

ff

This system contains two measures of music. The vocal line is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp. It features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note. The piano accompaniment is in grand staff with a key signature of one sharp. It features a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes with a quarter rest, followed by a quarter note. The first measure is marked with a fortissimo (*ff*) dynamic. The second measure has a triplet of eighth notes.