

Full Score

Stephen Hill  
(ASCAP)

If

*(An impression of the poem by Rudyard Kipling)*

Cello and Piano

  
SARAHTIM Music Publishing  




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# If

(An impression of the poem by Rudyard Kipling)

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## Instrumentation

Cello and Piano

Duration - ca. 2:40

  
SARAHTIM Music Publishing  


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**About the Work...** Composed in 2007, *If* was written at the request of Peter Alexander (Alexander Publishing) and is part of a larger project of Solo Compositions written for each major instrument of the Orchestra: Flute, Oboe, Clarinet, Bassoon, Horn in F, Trumpet, Trombone, Tuba, Violin, Viola, Cello and Double Bass. The project consisted of composing music for specific poems Peter chose that reflected each instrument's character.

**If** by Rudyard Kipling

*If you can keep your head when all about you are losing theirs and blaming it on you;  
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you, but make allowance for their doubting too; If you  
can wait and not be tired by waiting, or being lied about, don't deal in lies,  
Or being hated, don't give way to hating and yet don't look too good, not talk too wise:*

*If you can dream -- and not make dreams your master; if you can think -- and not make thoughts  
your aim; If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster and treat those two imposters just the same;  
If you can bear to hear the truth you've spoken twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,  
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken and stoop and build 'em up with worn-out tools;*

*If you can make one heap of all your winnings and risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss, And lose,  
and start again at your beginnings and never breathe a word about your loss; If you can force your  
heart and nerve and sinew to serve your turn long after they are gone, And so hold on when there is  
nothing in you except the Will which says to them: " Hold on!"*

*If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue, or walk with kings -- nor lose the common touch, If  
neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you, if all men count with you, but none too much;  
If you can fill the unforgiving minute with sixty seconds' worth of distance run --  
Yours is the earth and everything that's in it, and -- which more -- you'll be a Man, my Son!*

**.About the Composer...** Stephen Hill (b.1958) was born and raised in Southern California. His compositional lineage includes the likes of Roy Harris, Ingolf Dahl, Clifton Williams, Bernard Rogers, and Howard Hanson through study with Philip Westin (Cerritos College, 1976-1978) and most notably with W. Francis McBeth at Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, Arkansas (1978-1980). Stephen continued with graduate work at California State University, Los Angeles (1980-83) with composers Dr. Byong Kon Kim and William Hill. He composes for the simple joy of it.

For over 40 years, Stephen taught K-12 instrumental music in the Private Christian School (Whittier Christian) and Public School (California High School) settings. Though semi-retired, Stephen still works with students by continuing to teach part-time at California High School and maintaining his private music studio, where he plays and teaches Woodwinds, Brass, Strings, and Piano. Stephen also plays with the church orchestra at Calvary Chapel in La Habra, CA., where Stephen attends. When teaching full-time, he was primarily a "summer" composer. No longer teaching full-time, Stephen has the privilege to compose beyond just the summer months and publishes through his company, SARAHTIM—a title which comes from simply combining the name of his daughter Sarah and son Timothy. (*Notes by Dr. John Burdett, Azusa Pacific University*)

*"Where there is devotional music, God is always at hand with His gracious presence." J.S.Bach*

*"The Lord is my shepherd..." (Psalm 23)*

*"Before the mountains were born, before you gave birth to the earth and the world, from eternity to eternity, you are God" (Psalm 90:2)*

# If

*"If you can keep your head when all about you are losing theirs..." Rudyard Kipling*

Stephen Hill (ASCAP)

With energy and conviction ♩. = 80

3

The musical score is written for Cello and Piano. It begins in 6/8 time with a tempo of 80 beats per minute. The Cello part starts with a rest in the first measure, followed by a triplet of eighth notes in the second measure, marked with a forte (f) dynamic. The Piano part features a strong left hand accompaniment of eighth notes, starting with a fortissimo (ff) dynamic. The right hand has a melodic line with slurs and accents. A large, diagonal watermark reading 'PERUSAI SCORE' is overlaid across the entire score.

2

11

If

10

Musical notation for measures 10-12. The score is written for a single melodic line in bass clef and a piano accompaniment in grand staff (treble and bass clefs). Measure 10 starts with a 7/8 time signature. The piano part features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the bass clef and a melodic line in the treble clef. The melodic line has a slur over measures 10-12.

13

Musical notation for measures 13-15. The score continues with the same instrumentation. The piano accompaniment remains consistent with eighth notes in the bass and a melodic line in the treble. The melodic line has a slur over measures 13-15.

17

16

Musical notation for measures 16-19. The score continues with the same instrumentation. Measure 16 has a dynamic marking of *f* (forte). The piano accompaniment features a steady eighth-note accompaniment in the bass clef and a melodic line in the treble clef. The melodic line has a slur over measures 16-19. There are also some vertical lines in the piano part, possibly indicating fingerings or breath marks.

19

Musical score for measures 19-22. The score is written for a piano and includes a vocal line. The piano part features a complex texture with many beamed sixteenth notes in both hands. The vocal line consists of a melodic phrase with some grace notes. A large, diagonal watermark reading 'Percussal Score' is overlaid across the page.

23

Musical score for measures 23-27. The piano part continues with dense sixteenth-note patterns. In measure 25, there are two instances of a fortissimo (*sf*) dynamic marking. The vocal line continues with a melodic line. A large, diagonal watermark reading 'Percussal Score' is overlaid across the page.

28

Musical score for measures 28-31. The piano part features a very dense texture of sixteenth notes, marked with a fortissimo (*ff*) dynamic. The vocal line has a melodic phrase that concludes in measure 31. A large, diagonal watermark reading 'Percussal Score' is overlaid across the page.