NICHOLAS MAW

Sophie's Choice

AN OPERA IN FOUR ACTS

(1997 - 2002)

LIBRETTO BY THE COMPOSER BASED ON THE NOVEL BY WILLIAM STYRON



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Sophie's Choice

ACT I

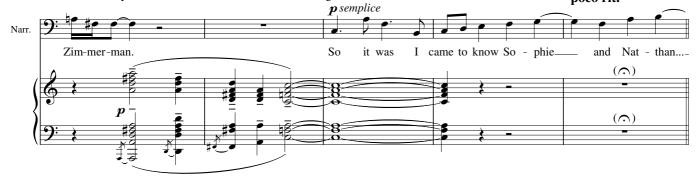
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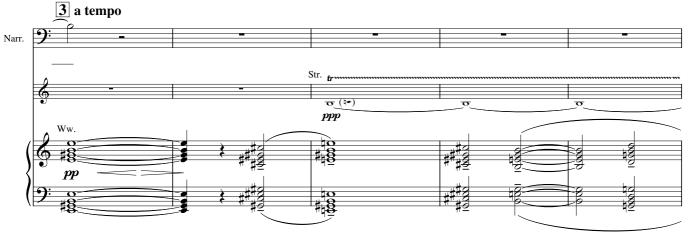


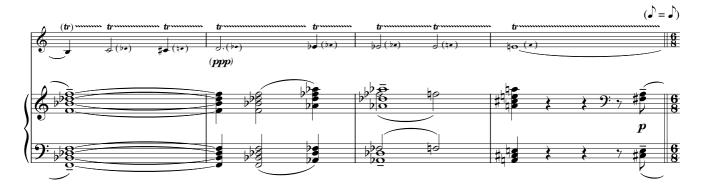
We see Yetta Zimmerman's boarding house in Brooklyn; summer 1947. To one side, occupying the lesser part of the stage, Stingo's room with door out to the hallway. The furnishings are rather sparse; visible items include a worktable-desk with typewriter, an armchair, and some well-stocked bookshelves. In the hallway outside, stairs lead up to the floor above where Nathan's room is located. A door on the other side of the hallway leads to Sophie's room, which occupies the larger part of the stage. At the back of the hallway is the street door. It is late afternoon. Stingo is at work in his room. **poco rit.**



Act 1, Scene 1

Scene 1 The novel Stingo is working on is proceeding with difficulty. He rises restlessly from his chair, strolls to look out of the window, takes a book down from the shelves.





As he paces about the room he becomes aware of a furious quarrel taking place on the floor above.

