Sixteen Going On Seventeen

Words by
OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN 2nd

Music by
RICHARD RODGERS

Moderato e semplice

Piano

You wait, little girl, on an empty stage
For fate to turn the light on.
Your life, little girl, is an empty page
That men will want to write on, to write on.

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Refrain (Assai moderato)

1. You are sixteen, going on seventeen,

2. I am sixteen, going on seventeen,

with feeling and not fast

Baby, it's time to think! Better beware, be
can't any careful, Baby you're on the brink!

F Gdim G F Bb C7

You are sixteen, going on seventeen, Fellows will fall in

I am sixteen, going on seventeen, Innocent as a
line. Eager young lads and roués and cads will
rose. Bach: o for dan-dies, drink-ers of bran-dies,
of-fer you food and wine. Totally un-pre-
what do I know of those? Totally un-pre-
pared are you To face a world of men.
pared am I To face a world of men.
Tim-id and shy and scared are you of things beyond your
Tim-id and shy and scared am I of things beyond my
G7  C7  F  Fdim  F  Bb  C7  Gm7  Cdim  C7

ken.  You need some-one older and wiser
ken.  I need some-one older and wiser

F  Fdim  F  Bbm6  F  Fdim  F  Bb
Tell-ing you what to do.  I am sev-en-teen,
Tell-ing me what to do.  You are sev-en-teen,

d7  D9  G9  Gdim  F
going on eight-teen, I'll take care of you.
going on eight-teen, I'll de-pend on you.

Optional ending  [To Interlude and 3rd Refrain]
G9  C7  F
you.  you.
bell is no bell till you ring it, A song is no song till you sing it, And love in your heart wasn't put there to stay, Love isn't love till you give it a way.
When you're sixteen, going on seventeen,

Waiting for life to start, somebody kind who

touches your mind will suddenly touch your heart!

When that happens, after it happens, nothing is quite the
Dm7  G9  C9  F

same.  Somehow you know you'll jump up and go if

Gm7  C9  F  Bb

ever he calls your name!  Gone are your old i-

Bb(5b)  F7  Bb

dees of life, the old i-deas grow dim-

Bb(5b)  F  D9

Lo and behold! You're someone's wife and you belong to
him! You may think this kind of adventure
never may come to you, Darling sixteen.

going on seventeen, Wait a year or two.