

# *Close to my Heart*

*Piano Sheet Music Book with  
10 Emotional Piano Solos*

A Story of Love and Loss Through Music

*Lianne Steeman*

Close to my Heart

Piano Sheet Music Book with 10 Emotional Piano Solos. A Story of Love and Loss  
Through Music

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*Dear Dad,*

*Thank you for sharing this beautiful passion for piano with  
me.*



# *Preface & Acknowledgements*

When I started composing music inspired by my father's illness, my only goal was to cope with my emotions and demonstrate to him how much I cared.

I could never have imagined how many other people would hear and appreciate my music as well! I am so grateful for the community of pianists and composers I found on Instagram (@pianopassion\_lianne). They have supported my work from the very start by boosting my confidence, listening to my music on Spotify, and performing my songs.

Within my Instagram piano community, I've also found an educational environment. Many users have inspired me to write music and to become a better composer. Sacha Hoedemaker, a successful pianist and composer from the Netherlands, has not only been a huge inspiration to me, but has also directly motivated me by supporting me on Spotify and teaching me different tips and tricks. The same goes for many of my other composer colleagues.

This community has also taught me a lot in regard to notating sheet music. Jonathan Strand generously offered to proofread several of

the compositions found in this book, and he also taught me how to take my sheet music notation to the next level.

I'm grateful to all the pianists, composers, and friends I have been lucky enough to meet so far. I've learned so much from all of you, and you've played a part in shaping the composer I am today.

A special thanks to S.M. for believing in me and for being enthusiastic about making this sheet music book together. It has been such a pleasure working with her. My thanks to Sanne van den Berg, a fellow pianist I met on Instagram, who connected us.

I also wanted to specifically thank my husband, parents, and my closest friends who have all been a great support to me. They had unconditional faith in me when I didn't have enough in myself. Thank you for rooting for me and instilling courage and confidence in me. You are part of the reason this book exists!

And finally, as difficult as the illness of my father has been, there is always a silver lining to any situation. Not only did we grow closer due to his illness, but it also gave rise to a whole new way of enjoying piano. Somehow, the grief and sadness fueled my music career.

I love you so much Dad, and I will miss you forever. You'll always live on through me, especially when I play the piano and write music.

*You will always be close to my heart.*



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# *Dream*

*The song it all began with...*

Lianne began writing this piece at a point in her life when she was doubtful of her purpose. At the time, she made the decision to follow her passion for piano instead of becoming a doctor.

When her father fell ill two years later, she revisited the song, as a birthday present for him. He was turning fifty-nine, which was thought to be his last birthday.

However, he was given another year of precious time. For his sixtieth birthday, she rewrote the piece one last time in its final version.

“Dream” is a reminder to never lose hope and to always imagine a beautiful, fulfilling life for yourself. Lianne dreamt of pursuing her piano passion. She dreamt of more time with her father. Both of those dreams became a reality.

*Allow yourself to have hopes and dreams*