

## Three pieces of music for my funeral

### **Nocturne in E<sup>b</sup> Major, Op.9 No.2 - Chopin**

I was brought up with my father playing various Chopin pieces. I can play this one, albeit very badly. I could play it much better if I practised it.

I think the reason this piece appeals to me is the *logic* of each note being exactly the right one... I can't explain it any more than that.

<https://youtu.be/yDSxPiFOrEY>

### **Love Me or Leave Me – Nina Simone**

Four minutes of sublime talent, singing and piano. With an intricate Bach fugue woven into a jazz arrangement. Nina even starts to introduce “swing” around the 2:50 minute mark. And ends with a flourish. I admire sheer talent and professionalism. Don't we all?

<https://youtu.be/355RWiehK98>

### **Que Sera Sera – Doris Day**

I wouldn't particularly play this song on purpose. But whenever I hear it, it stays with me for several hours afterwards. I've spent my life making conscious decisions about which path to take and yet this song is a perverse reminder that “life is what happens to you while you're busy making other plans”.

<https://youtu.be/xZbKHDPPrcc>

Close but didn't quite make it:

### **Arrival of the Queen of Sheba – Handel**

I can also play this (also badly) and it was played at my first wedding. Joyful, like opening a bottle of musical champagne.

No particular version but why not this one performed on the harp!

<https://youtu.be/k2bpKEkbWBM>

### **So Do I – Kenny Ball**

Played at the end of our ceremony after I married for the second time.

Also joyful but mainly completely exuberant! Which is how we felt.

<https://youtu.be/Dt-9TVIrLz8>