

PARTS: Soprano Alto Tenor-Bass All Solo

bold = first beat of bar ^ = rest Underline = triplet backing vocal = [text] notes = (softly)

230 - From Little Things Big Things Grow

Listen and singalong ([592](#)) [Paul Kelly - From Little Things Big Things Grow - YouTube](#)

16-bar intro

Verse 1

Gath-er 'round people, (we'll*) **tell** you a story

An **eight** year long story of **po**-wer and pride

Brit-ish Lord Vestey and **Vin**-cent Ling-iar-i

Were **opp**-osite men on **opp**-osite sides

4 bar turnaround

(Bass/Tenor) **Vest**-ey was fat with **mon**-ey and muscle

Beef was his business, **broad** was his door

(Soprano) **Vin**-cent was **lean** and **spoke** very little

He **had** no bank balance, hard **dirt** was his floor

Chorus **From** ^ ^ **lit**-tle things ^ **big** things ^ **grow**

From ^ ^ **lit**-tle things ^ **big** things ^ **grow**

8 bar turnaround

(All) Gur-**ind**-ji were working for **noth**-ing but rations

Where **once** they had gathered the **wealth** of the land

Dai-ly the pressure got **tight**-er and tighter

Gur-**ind**-ji decided they make a stand**must**

4 bar turnaround

(Bass/Tenor) They **pick**-ed up their swags and **start**-ed off walking

At Wattie Creek they **sat** themselves **down**

(Alto) Now it **don't** sound like much, but it **sure** got tongues **talk**-ing

Back at the **home**-stead and **then** in the town

Chorus **From** ^ ^ **lit**-tle things ^ **big** things ^ **grow**

From ^ ^ **lit**-tle things ^ **big** things ^ **grow**

8 bar turnaround

(Bass/Tenor) **Vest**-ey man said, "I'll **doub**-le your wages

Eight-**een** quid a week you'll **have** in your hand"

(Soprano) **Vin**-cent said, "Uh-uh, we're not **talk**-ing about wages

We're **sit**-ting right here 'til **we** get our land"

(Bass/Tenor) **Vest**-ey man roared and **Vest**-ey man thundered

"You **don't** stand the chance of a **cind**-er in snow"

(All) **Vince** said, "If we fall, **oth**-ers are rising"

Chorus **From** ^ ^ **lit**-tle things ^ **big** things ^ **grow**

From ^ ^ **lit**-tle things ^ **big** things ^ **grow**

8 bar turnaround

(Alto) Then **Vin**-cent Lingiari **board**-ed an airplane

Land-ed in Sydney, big **ci**-ty of lights

And **dai**-ly he went round softly **speak**-ing his story

To **all** kinds of men from **all** walks of life

(Bass/Tenor) And **Vin**-cent sat down with **big** politicians

"This **aff**-air", they told him, "It's a **mat**-ter of state

Let **us** sort it out while your **peo-ple** are hungry"

(Soprano) **Vin-cent** said, "No thanks, we **know** how to wait"

Chorus (All) **From** ^ ^ **lit-tle** things ^ **big** things ^ **grow**

From ^ ^ **lit-tle** things ^ **big** things ^ **grow**

8 bars turnaround

Then **Vin-cent** Lingiari re-**turn**-ed in an airplane

Back to his country once **more** to sit down

And **he** told his people, "Let the **stars** keep on turning

We have **friends** in the south, in the **cit-ies** and towns"

4 bar turnaround

(Solo with choir softly humming the chord progression) **Eight** years went by, eight **long** years of **wait**-ing

'Til **one** day a tall stranger ap-**pear**-ed in the land

And **he** came with lawyers and he **came** with great ceremony

And **through** Vincent's fingers poured a **hand**-ful of sand

Chorus (All) **From** ^ ^ **lit-tle** things ^ **big** things ^ **grow**

From ^ ^ **lit-tle** things ^ **big** things ^ **grow**

16-bar instrumental

Well, **that** was the story of **Vin-cent** Lingiari

But **this** is the story of **some**-thing much more

How **pow**-er and privilege can **not** move a people

Who **know** where they stand, and **stand** in the law

Chorus **From** ^ ^ **lit-tle** things ^ **big** things ^ **grow**

From ^ ^ **lit-tle** things ^ **big** things ^ **grow**

From ^ ^ **lit-tle** things ^ **big** things ^ **grow**

From ^ ^ **lit-tle** things ^ **big** things ^ **grow**

From little things big things grow (*Soprano harmony*)
(from little things big things grow)

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(*Soprano harmony*) (From little things big things grow)

(*Soprano harmony*) (From little things big things grow)

Words and music Paul Kelly and Kev Carmody

**The original lyric "I'll" has been substituted by "we'll" to suit the telling of this song by a choir of people rather than a soloist.*