

# WHY I WROTE, "THE RAIN CLOUD"

I was inspired to write this song when I heard a rainstorm outside one day. I wanted to write a song about this rainstorm because I've heard so many rainstorms and thought this would be a good topic to start out with. Going over to the piano, I started plucking out a chord progression using diminished chords that I've always wanted to use in one of my songs. My father overheard me and said I should put it down on Sibelius. We were new to the program and my dad helped me put it on into the score. I wrote down the chord progressions in c-minor and started to make a melody.

The first melody can be heard on the French horn on the second repeat. After I had finished the first part, I decided to move into a completely new theme. I started out with a simple pattern of notes and kept adding on parts to intensify it. This symbolizes the building of clouds on the horizon. The first part starts out with the Bass Guitar and Harp, then adds the Double Bass, later dropping the bass and adding a violin part. Then I add a touch of Xylorimba, to sound like rain starting to fall.



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I later join the Flute with an eerie scale and then go into a soft duet with the Flute and Oboe, changing the key and signaling the calm before the storm. In a-flat, I used the opening cadence, creating an image in the listener's mind of an opening in the dark accumulating clouds. It represents a rainbow shining through, providing a happy intermission in the song.

At this point in the song the rain really starts to fall. I use a simple progression of arpeggiated chords, played by the Xylorimba, and accompanied by the Violoncello. This depicts the rain pouring down, not too much, but beginning to intensify. The Timpani and Cymbals both join the song when the rain really starts pouring- sheets of it falling and falling, soaking anything in its path. The Timpani represents thunder booming in the background, and the Cymbals are the lightning. To add to the intensity, I make the arpeggios move in a downward motion instead of up, using the same chord progressions as before in a different way.

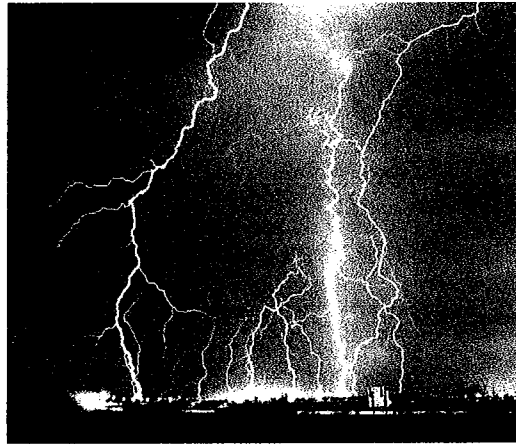


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The song then returns to the beginning theme, where the rain starts to fall and clouds start to loom on the dark sky, but this time, they are clearing away. After repeating the beginning, I come to an end, where I use the violins in arpeggios and roll the Xylorimba, beat the Timpani, clash the cymbals, and use every other instrument in a final way, with a major chord, to represent a clear sky.



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