

## **Chopin Nocturne in C-sharp minor Analysis**

### **“Describe what this music makes you feel”**

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This piece by Chopin creates lots of tension and release with the trills in the right hand and the interesting note choice for the left hand, which provokes a mysterious feel. When it takes a major shift at 2:10 it feels like the fog lifts for a second, but then returns at the minor section that quickly follows. It is a softly played piece for the majority of the song, which portrays a sense of calmness I find, even if there are some moments of dissonance in the piece. I very much enjoy Chopin’s work, and even though this piece is a little different to a lot of his others, I find a deep satisfaction in listen to his pieces.

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Chopin Nocturne has a slow, classical tune toward the beginning, but it speeds up after the two minute mark. The tempo never gets too upbeat, it stays mostly at an andante tempo throughout the music. The pitches in the music go from high to low at a swift pace creating a beautiful fluidity. The main instrument is the piano which is one of my favorites because it is used in many classical pieces and it is very recognizable. Pianos create a bit of deja vu or nostalgia. For me, Nocturne forms an image in my mind of waiting backstage and listening to music before going on.

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At the beginning of this piece by Chopin, I am reminded of staying late in the studio after dark, listening to music and practicing movements. However, by the 2:09 mark, it changes and brings back memories of being in my sister’s room on a sunny day cleaning. My sisters had small music piano boxes that played classical music. They would play the second part of this piece and a few others. Overall, it is nostalgic for me and makes me reflect on the time and growth of my sisters and me. I tried to listen to it as if for the first time. While difficult, I would say It makes me think of an old mansion with different people like the master of the manor and scullery maids. I can imagine an old man sitting in his arm chair in the library, reading and smoking a pipe on a rainy day. I could picture maids cleaning the dark rooms, as the house-keeper sternly walks through the cold hallways dismissively critiquing all cleaning.

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The best word I have in my vocabulary to describe the emotions this piece stirred is anguish. Everything, from the gentle intention of every carefully spaced note to the soft, quiet sound that prevailed even when the music sped up implied a deep pain. Unlike in many other pieces, this one did not reflect any sort of anger or blame. It was instead a deep sort of sorrow— almost as if the pain were from a faded memory. The repetition and crescendos both implied a difficulty in moving on. The slightly faster moments imply happier memories amidst the sadness, which may

be exactly what makes the piece so moving. It is not someone dimensional, it's textured with moments of hope, joy, love, and setbacks. This makes it real, and all the more anguished because of it.

[REDACTED]

This music, like all the rest, was absolutely breathtaking! Coincidentally I actually just watched *The Pianist*, where the main character plays this song. Just like in the movie, when listening to this song, I felt a sense of complete despair with glimmers of hope. To me, it feels as though someone is at a rough point in their life. Although they do not collapse into the pain, instead, they get back up. This is shown during the beginning when the music has an overwhelming sense of sadness that then turns into something happy. Sadly, this happiness does not last, and, once again, the person falls down. Here the fall is harder than the last one, and it feels as though this is the end. However, even in such distress, the person gets back up yet again. This is done, by reminding themselves of how better days are coming, with happiness on the horizon. As a whole, this song was able to draw emotions that many can connect to. For me, I was able to feel a pain in my chest as I related the song back to the movie as well as watching the young man. Yet it also showed how even in complete despair, good things are coming.

[REDACTED]

Chopin Nocturne in C-sharp minor

Chopin has always been my favorite composer, so I've been waiting to hear one of his great pieces as an assignment. You can see that everyone in the audience loves Chopin too, because they all gasped when the conductor revealed that he would be leading that particular piece. The simple yet complex structure of the composition carries so many hidden meanings and emotions within the piece. For some reason, this piece of music makes me imagine an empty ballroom, where someone rediscovers their love of dancing. It's like being reunited with a lost friend that was once forgotten. In times like right now, I picture myself losing touch more and more with dance, and it frightens me. Dance has been the most important and consistent element of my life, and now I cannot find the closure I was hoping for. This piece of music gives me hope that one day I will be reunited with dancing, and I will be able to pick up where I left off.

[REDACTED]

Chopin's nocturne makes me feel sadness, but also hope. I can imagine a lonely person dancing to it or a person leaving someone. It is such a deep dark beautiful sound on the piano. I think it has different feelings to each person who listens to it. This song made me feel happy and sad at the same time.

[REDACTED]

When listening to this variation of Nocturne by Chopin, I feel as if the music is connecting with me. The lower notes, which are more rhythmic and melancholic, played with the higher notes,

which are more melodic and uplifting, creates a perfect balance in the piece, which makes me picture a grey sky on a rainy day. This harmonization itself is so well matched, that when I close my eyes I can almost picture the two different notes dancing together and becoming one, causing the piece to feel complete. The music is being played with so much depth and expression, that all I want to do is close my eyes and listen to this piece over and over again. As the notes become more cheerful, I start to picture a warm sunset decorated with pinks and oranges, as the rays of light peek through the dark clouds. I feel inspired by this part of the piece, and it reminds me of how much I miss dancing to music, and how much I miss ballet. By the end of the piece, I no longer picture a grey sky, but all I can see is a beautiful sunset setting over the horizon, which makes me think of all the good memories I have.



This music made me feel calm and relaxed while I listened to it. I think I felt this way because the notes are precise and some parts of the melody repeat itself, but with different notes. I think it also made me feel this way because it was only the piano playing, and there was no other instrument at the same time, making way for me to relax while hearing it. I like how some parts are faster and others are slower but the volume of the notes don't change drastically at any point of the music.