

LED ZEPPELIN

STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN

by Jimmy Page/Robert Plant
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STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN

GUITAR

This famous song is a veritable compendium of the rock guitarist's skills. Perfect pickwork and subtle shading are what give the song its character. You will need to work carefully through each section, regarding each as equally important. If you do so, you will find that this one song can teach you a great deal.

BASS

The gentle picking and relaxed feel of the first half followed by the dynamic attacking style of the second makes for quite a contrast. Melodious songs like this are

very much affected by the rhythm of the bass playing, so all unevenness must be avoided to provide the right backing for the melody and the solo.

DRUMS

As with the bass, the first and second halves of the song contrast strongly with each other. The key is to get the feel of the whole before you begin, and get that into your head in order to be able to bring out the mood of the song. In particular, pay attention to the length of each individual beat and stay right with the guitar riff. The bass drum playing also calls for some technical skill, and must be clear at all times.

Chorus

Am AmΔ9(onAb) Am(onG) D(onF#) FΔ7 G Am Am Am(onAb)

Verse

Am7(onG) D(onF#) FΔ7 G Am C D FΔ7 Am

Instrumentation: Vo. (Vocal), Gt.-I (Guitar), Kb. (Keyboard), (Recorder)

Chorus: The first system shows the vocal melody and guitar accompaniment for the chorus. The guitar part features a complex arpeggiated pattern in the left hand and a melodic line in the right hand. The keyboard part provides harmonic support with chords and single notes.

Verse: The second system shows the vocal melody and guitar accompaniment for the verse. The guitar part continues with the arpeggiated pattern, while the keyboard part plays chords and single notes.

①(Gt.): It would be best to play these arpeggios with both pick and fingers together, but if you choose to use your fingers only, make sure you bring out the root note.

Chords: C G D C D FΔ7 Am C G

Vo. *p.*

Gt.-I

Kb.

Chords: FΔ7 B Am AmΔ9(onA \flat) Am7(onG) D(onF \sharp) FΔ7 G Am

Vo. There's a la-dy who's sure all that glit-ters is gold and she's buy-ing a stair-way to heav-en. When she

Gt.-I

Kb.

Chords: Am AmΔ9(onA \flat) Am7(onG) D(onF \sharp) FΔ7 G Am C D

Vo. gets there she knows if the stores are all closed with a word she can get what she came for. Ooh,

Gt.-I

Kb.

Vo. $F\Delta 7$ A_m C G D C D 3 $F\Delta 7$ A_m

oooh, and she's buy - ing a stair - way to heav-en. There's a sign on the wall but she wants to be sure - 'cause you

Gt.-I

Kb.

Vo. C D $F\Delta 7$ A_m7 $A_m\Delta 9(onAb)$ $A_m7(onG)$ $D(onF\#)$ $F\Delta 7$

know some - times words have two mean - ings. In a tree by the brook there's a song - bird who sings, some-times all of our thoughts are mis -

Gt.-I

Kb.

Vo. G A_m A_m7 $A_m\Delta 9(onAb)$ $A_m7(onG)$ $D(onF\#)$ $F\Delta 7$ G A_m $Cadd9$

- giv - en.

Gt.-I

Kb.

Chords: C, G(onB), F, Am, C, G(onB), Am

Vo. spir - it is cry - ing for leav - ing. In my thoughts I have seen rings of smoke through the trees, and the
 pip - er will lead us to rea - son. And a new day will dawn for those who stand long and the

Gt.-I

Gt.-II

Kb.

Ba.

Dr.

Chords: C, G(onB), F, Am, C, G(onB), Am7, G, D

Vo. voic - es of those who stand look - ing.
 for - ests will ech - o with laugh - ter.

Gt.-I

Gt.-II

Kb.

Ba.

Dr.

Am7 Em D Cadd9 D Am7 G D Am7 Em

Vo. *Ooh*

Gt.-I

Gt.-II

Kb.

Ba.

Dr.

D Cadd9 D **D** C G(onB) Am C G(onB) F

Vo.

If there's a bus-tle in your hedge-row, don't be a-larmed now, it's just a spring clean for the May—
 Your head is hum-ming and it won't go in case you don't know, the pip-er's call-ing you to join—

Gt.-I

Gt.-II

Kb.

Ba.

Dr.

③(Ba.) : The sound should be big and broad. Watch the timing of the syncopation.

④(Dr.) : A simple eight beat rhythm pattern. Take your time and let the rhythm swing easily.

Am C G(onB) Am C G(onB) F

Vo. — queen. — — — — —
 him, Yes, there are two paths you can go by — but in the long run there's still time to change — the road —
 Dear la - dy, can you hear the wind blow, and did you know your stair-way lies on the whis -

Gt.-I

Gt.-II

Kb.

Ba.

Dr.

Am C G(onB) 1. Am7 G D Am Em7

Vo. — you're on. — — — — —
 - per - ing wind. And it makes me won - der.

Gt.-I

Gt.-II

Kb.

Ba.

Dr.

Chord progression: D Cadd9 D Am7 G D Am7 Em7 D Cadd9 D

Vo. (Vocal line)

Gt.-I (Guitar I)

Gt.-II (Guitar II)

Kb. (Keyboard)

Ba. (Bass)

Dr. (Drums)

2. a tempo D E D C(#11) D

Vo. (Vocal line)

Gt.-I (Guitar I)

Gt.-II (Guitar II)

Kb. (Keyboard)

Ba. (Bass)

Dr. (Drums)

(A.Gt.) (Acoustic Guitar)

(E.Gt.) (Electric Guitar)

(Strings)

Am Am(onG) FΔ7 Am Am(onG) FΔ7

Vo.

Gt.-I

Gt.-II

Kb.

Ba.

Dr.

s. cho. 8va → cho. cho. cho. C.D. p. cho. C.D. p. cho. C.D. p. C.D. p.

cho. cho. cho. p. C.D. p. C.D. p. C.D. p.

cho. C.D. cho. cho.

5 7 5 7 5 7 8 8 10 8 15 15 15 13 15 13 15 15 15 13 14 13 15 15 13 13 15 15 13 13 13 15 15 13 14

cho. C.D. cho. cho.

Am Am(onG) FΔ7 Am Am(onG) FΔ7

Vo.

Gt.-I

Gt.-II

Kb.

Ba.

Dr.

Bottleneck

Over Dub.

C.D. p. cho. C.D. p. cho. C.D. cho. C.D. p. cho. C.D. p. cho. C.D. p.

cho. cho. cho. C.D. cho. C.D. p. cho. C.D. p.

cho. cho. C.D. p. cho. 3 p. C.D. 3

13 15 15 13 13 15 15 13 15 15 15 12 15 13 14 13 15 13 14 13 15 15 15 13 14 (14) 10 10 20 17 20 20 19 19 17 19 17 17

cho. cho. C.D. 3 p.

cho. C.D. 3 p.

5 5 5 7 7 3 3 3 5 5 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 3 5 5 5 7 7 3 3 3 3 3 1 1 1 1 3 3 3 3 3 1 1

6 6 6 6 3 3

Am Am^(onG) FΔ7 Am Am^(onG) FΔ7 Am Am^(onG)

Vo.

Gt.-I

Gt.-II

Kb.

Ba.

Dr.

FΔ7 Am G F G Am G

Vo.

Gt.-I

Gt.-II

Kb.

Ba.

Dr.

⑧ (Gt.) : The timing of the syncopation needs to be spot on here in order to fill the gaps in the vocal line precisely.

Am Am(onG) FΔ7 Am Am(onG) FΔ7

Vo.

Gt.-I

Gt.-II

cho. cho. cho. cho. cho. cho. cho. cho. cho. cho.

hco. cho. cho. cho. cho. cho. cho. cho. cho. cho. cho.

Kb.

Ba.

Dr.

8va

Am Am(onG) FΔ7

Vo.

And she's buy - ing a stair - way to heav - en.

Gt.-I

Gt.-II

cho. cho. cho. cho. cho. cho. cho. cho. cho. cho.

cho. cho. cho. cho. cho. cho. cho. cho. cho. cho.

Kb.

Ba.

Dr.

(8va)

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