

E♭ part

The Messenger

Improvisation techniques by
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Song can be heard at http://www.last.fm/music/Linkin+Park/_/The+Messenger

Lead sheet from Linkin Park: A Thousand Suns (2010) ISBN: 978-1-61774-296-5 Linkin Park

♩ = 140
1/2 time rock feel

The musical score is written for an E♭ instrument in E major (three sharps: F#, C#, G#) and 4/4 time. The tempo is 140 beats per minute, and the feel is described as '1/2 time rock feel'. The score is divided into six systems, each with a measure number (5, 9, 13, 17, 21) at the beginning. Each system consists of a melody line and a bass line. Chord symbols are placed below the bass line: E, B, C#m7, and A. Fingering numbers (5, 9, 13, 17, 21) are placed at the start of the melody line in each system. The melody line uses eighth and quarter notes, often with slurs and accents. The bass line consists of block chords. A first ending bracket is present at the end of the 21st measure.

25

E B C#m7 A E B A A

35

E B C#m7 A

39

E B A

43

E B C#m7 A

47

E B A

51

E B C#m7 A

55

E B A

61 Combining rhythmic motif, melody, and guide tones (3rds or 7ths of chord)

①

65

69 Pick B (preferable) and/or G# and focus on rhythm, dynamics, and tone (example provided)

②

74

78 Starting improv on 3rd and 5th and adjusting for next chord with same rhythmic motif

③

82

86

Playing parts of the melody, and even adding a note here and there

④

E B C#m7 A

90

E B A

94

Pentatonic scale

Pentatonic scale provides "safe" notes over all chords

⑤

E E B C#m7 A

99

E B A

Since same 8 bars of chords repeat, you can take melody from another part of song and use it anywhere. Likewise, if two songs use same chords - interchange melodies in improv

103

⑥

E B C#m7 A

107

E B A

111 This song emphasizes a lot of 2 (9th) to 1 resolutions, so utilize that idea on each chord

⑦

E B C#m⁷ A

115

E B A