

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

$\text{♩} = 140$

1/2 time rock feel

Musical notation for measures 1-4. Treble clef, key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), 4/4 time signature. Chords: G, D, Em7, C.

Musical notation for measures 5-8. Treble clef, key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), 4/4 time signature. Chords: G, D, C.

Musical notation for measures 9-12. Treble clef, key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), 4/4 time signature. Chords: G, D, Em7, C.

Musical notation for measures 13-16. Treble clef, key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), 4/4 time signature. Chords: G, D, C.

Musical notation for measures 17-20. Treble clef, key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), 4/4 time signature. Chords: G, D, Em7, C.

Musical notation for measures 21-24. Treble clef, key signature of two sharps (F# and C#), 4/4 time signature. Chords: G, D, C. Includes a first ending bracket over measures 23-24.

25

G D Em⁷ C G D C C

33

G D Em⁷ C

39

G D C

43

G D Em⁷ C

47

G D C

51

G D Em⁷ C

55

G D C

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

①

G D Em⁷ C

65

G D C

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

②

G *mf* D Em⁷ C

74

G *f* D C *p*

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

③

G D Em⁷ C

82

G D C

86

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

④

G D Em⁷ C

90

G D C

94

Pentatonic scale

Pentatonic scale provides "safe" notes over all chords

⑤

G G D Em⁷ C

99

G D C

103

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

⑥

G D Em⁷ C

107

G D C

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

⑦

Musical notation for measures 111-114. The top staff shows a melody with notes G, A, B, C, B, A, G, F#, E, D, C, B, A, G. The bottom staff shows chords G, D, Em⁷, and C. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#).

115

Musical notation for measures 115-118. The top staff shows a melody with notes G, A, B, C, B, A, G, F#, E, D, C, B, A, G. The bottom staff shows chords G, D, and C. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#).