Side Notes: When I hear this song, it immediately brings back memories of my mission in Argentina when we would sing for both members and investigators of the church. Sometimes I was lucky to have a companion who could sing harmony, and sometimes not. However, no matter how we might have sounded, the spirit would always be there when we sang. Music may be the most powerful and simple way to help someone understand how to feel the spirit. Even if a person may not believe in God, how can they help but not have hope for companionship of some higher power in lonely or troubled times in life, as mentioned in the lyrics of this song. "Abide with me... the darkness deepens... when other helpers fail and comforts flee... O, thou who changest not, abide with me."

I also believe this is one of the greatest "comfort hymns" of all time. Sometime in life we all have to deal with the loss of friends and family members. Whether dealing with the loss of a loved one, or struggling with other trials, this hymn can bring peace. I tried to capture the feelings of loss, discouragement and comfort in this arrangement. If you are facing trials, I hope this song helps you feel the love our Savior has for each of his children; and that in a small way it might help you through troubled times. If all is well in your life... hopefully it will help someone who listens to you play the song.





