

Side Notes: I wrote this song in December of 2007. When I sat down at the piano, the snow had just started to cover the ground, plants and trees in our backyard. As I continued to write this melody, everything outside was completely covered in clean, white snow. There is nothing more stunning than the change that takes place with the change of season and a fresh blanket of snow. Its effect can even turn an unfinished backyard full of dirt and weeds into something beautiful.

It's much the same with people. No matter what someone has said or done, there is always the opportunity to start over and become completely clean. However, just like the weather, we can't control when, where, or even if this happens. The only thing we can do is be willing to remember that everyone has the opportunity to be completely clean and be sure to forgive others so that we can be clean... just like a fresh blanket of snow.

December Snow

Jason Tonioli

The first system of musical notation is for a piano piece in 4/4 time. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The treble staff begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic and features a series of chords in the first two measures, followed by a melodic line in the last three measures. The bass staff has a few notes in the first two measures and rests for the remainder of the system. A mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic marking is placed in the treble staff towards the end of the system.

With pedal

The second system of musical notation starts at measure 7. It features a more active melody in the treble staff, with eighth and sixteenth notes. The bass staff continues with a steady accompaniment of eighth notes and chords.

The third system of musical notation starts at measure 12. The treble staff has a melodic line with some grace notes and rests. The bass staff continues with a consistent accompaniment pattern.

18

Musical notation for measures 18-22. The system consists of a grand staff with a treble clef on the upper staff and a bass clef on the lower staff. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes in both hands, with some rests and dynamic markings.

23

mp

Musical notation for measures 23-28. The system consists of a grand staff. The upper staff contains block chords and some melodic fragments. The lower staff features a steady accompaniment of eighth-note chords. A dynamic marking of *mp* (mezzo-piano) is present.

29

mf

Musical notation for measures 29-33. The system consists of a grand staff. The upper staff has a melodic line with eighth-note patterns. The lower staff has a bass line with eighth-note chords. A dynamic marking of *mf* (mezzo-forte) is present.

34

Musical notation for measures 34-37. The system consists of a grand staff. The upper staff features a continuous eighth-note melodic line. The lower staff has a bass line with eighth-note chords.

38

Musical notation for measures 38-41. The system consists of a grand staff. The upper staff has a melodic line with eighth notes and rests. The lower staff has a bass line with eighth notes and rests.