



arranged by
Jonathan Kilhams

About the piece

"Africa" is a song by the American rock band Toto. It was included on their 1982 album Toto IV, and released as a single on September 30, 1982. It reached number one on the US Billboard Hot 100 chart on February 5, 1983 (the band's only number one there), and number three on the UK Singles Chart the same month.

The initial idea and words for the song came from David Paich. Jeff Porcaro explains the idea behind the song: *"a white boy is trying to write a song on Africa, but since he's never been there, he can only tell what he's seen on TV or remembers in the past."*

Paich said: *"At the beginning of the '80s I watched a late night documentary on TV about all the terrible death and suffering of the people in Africa. It both moved and appalled me, and the pictures just wouldn't leave my head. I tried to imagine how I'd feel about if I was there and what I'd do."*

In 2015, Paich explained the song is about a man's love of a continent, Africa, rather than just a personal romance. In 2018, Paich explained the song is about a person flying in to meet a lonely missionary. As a child, Paich attended a Catholic school. Several of the teachers had done missionary work in Africa, and this became the inspiration behind the line *"I bless the rains down in Africa"*.

About the arrangement

I have tried to keep as much of the original material used by Toto as possible, within the confines of a male voice choir arrangement. The arrangement is for TTBB and piano and can include sound effects made by the choir at the beginning to imitate rain and a thunderstorm. A bongo drum can be played through the choruses to add more of an African percussive feel. My thanks must go to Gareth Giles (pianist, organist, composer and arranger) who helped create the piano part for this arrangement.

Jonathan Kilhams

Duration: 4mins

Africa

Words and Music by David Paich
and Jeff Porcaro

arr. Jonathan Kilhams

$\text{♩} = 88$ With a purposeful energy

Tenor 1

p

doo doo_ doo doo doo doo doo

Tenor 2

p

doo doo_ doo doo doo doo doo

Baritone

p

doo doo_ doo doo doo doo doo

Bass

p

doo doo_ doo doo doo doo doo

3

mp

doo doo_ doo doo doo doo dah

mp

doo doo_ doo doo doo doo dah

mp

doo doo_ doo doo doo doo dah

mp

doo doo_ doo doo doo doo dah

5

mp

oo

mf

I hear the drums echo-o-ing to- night.

mf

oo

mp

oo

mf

oo

f

She hears on - ly whis-pers of some qui-et con-ver

8

mf *mp*

doo doo_ doo doo doo doo doo_ oo_

mf *mf*

doo doo_ doo doo doo doo doo She's co-ming in twelve thir - ty flight,

mf *mp*

doo doo_ doo doo doo doo doo_ oo_

f *mp*

sa - - tion. doo doo doo_ oo_

11

mf

oo_

mf

oo_

mf

oo_

f

moon-lit wings re - flect the stars that guide me t'wards sal - va -

14

mf *mp*

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo_ oo_

mf *mf*

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo I stopped an old man a-long the way, oo_

mf *mp*

doo doo doo doo doo doo doo_ oo_

f *mp*

tion. doo doo doo_ oo_ Hop-ing to find some

17 *mf* *mf*

oo_ doo doo_ doo doo doo doo doo_

doo doo_ doo doo doo doo doo

oo_ doo doo_ doo doo doo doo doo_

long for- got - ten words or an- cient me - lo - dies. doo doo doo_

f

20 *mp* *f* *f*

oo_ Hur-ry boy_ it's wai-ting there for you._____

He turned to me_ as if_ to say,_____ Hur-ry boy_ it's wai-ting there for you._____

mp *f* *f*

oo_ Hur-ry boy_ it's wai-ting there for you._____

mp *f* *f*

oo_ Hur-ry boy_ it's wai-ting there for you._____

24 *f* *f* *f*

Gon-na take a lot_ to drag me a way_ from you,_____ There's no-thing that a hun-dred men or more

Gon-na take a lot_ to drag me a way_ from you,_____ There's no-thing that a hun-dred men or more

f *f* *f*

A - - - - - fri - ca_____

A - - - - - fri - ca_____

27

— could ev-er do._ I bless the rains down in A - fri-ca._

— could ev-er do._ I bless the rains down in A - fri-ca._

A - fri - ca A - fri -

A - fri - ca A - fri -

30

Gon-na take some time to do_ the things we ne - ver had._

Gon-na take some time to do_ the things we ne - ver had._

ca. things we ne - ver had._

ca. things we ne - ver had._

33

mp doo doo_ doo doo doo doo dah_ *mp* doo doo_ doo doo doo doo dah_

mp doo doo_ doo doo doo doo dah_ *mp* doo doo_ doo doo doo doo dah_

mp doo doo_ doo doo doo doo dah_ *mp* doo doo_ doo doo doo doo dah_

mp doo doo_ doo doo doo doo dah_ *mp* doo doo_ doo doo doo doo dah_

37

mp *mf*
 oo oo
mf *mf*
 The wild dogs cry out in the night oo
mp *mf*
 oo oo
mp *f*
 oo they grow rest less long-ing for some so-li-ta ry com - pa

41

mf *mp*
 doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo oo
mf *mf*
 doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo I know that I must do what's right, oo
mf *mp*
 doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo oo
f *mp*
 ny. doo doo doo oo sure as Ki li-man-ja - ro

44

mf *mf*
 oo doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo
mf *mf*
 doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo doo
mf *mf*
 oo doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo
f
 ri - ses like an em-press a-bove the Se - ren-ge - ti. doo doo doo

47 *mp* *f*

fright-ened of__ this thing that I've be come.____

I seek to cure what's deep in side.____ fright-ened of__ this thing that I've be come.____

mp *f*

fright-ened of__ this thing that I've be come.____

mp *f*

fright-ened of__ this thing that I've be come.____

51 *f*

Gon-na take a lot__ to drag me a way__ from you,____ There's no-thing that a hun-dred men or more

f

Gon-na take a lot__ to drag me a way__ from you,____ There's no-thing that a hun-dred men or more

f 3

A - - - - - fri - ca

f 3

A - - - - - fri - ca

54

__ could ev-er do.____ I bless the rains down in A - fri-ca.____

__ could ev-er do.____ I bless the rains__ down in A - fri-ca.____

3

A - fri - ca

3

A - fri -

3

A - fri - ca

3

A - fri -

57

Gon-na take some time to do the things we ne - ver had. doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo

Gon-na take some time to do the things we ne - ver had. doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo

ca. things we ne - ver had. doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo

ca. things we ne - ver had. doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo

61

mp doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo *mf* doo doo_doo doo doo doo dah

mp doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo *mf* doo doo_doo doo doo doo dah

mp doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo *mf* doo doo_doo doo doo doo dah

mp doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo *mf* doo doo_doo doo doo doo dah

66

f doo doo_doo doo doo doo dah *ff* Gon-na take a lot to drag me a way from you,

f doo doo_doo doo doo doo dah *ff* Gon-na take a lot to drag me a way from you,

f doo doo_doo doo doo doo dah *ff* A - - - - - fri

f doo doo_doo doo doo doo dah *ff* A - - - - - fri

70

There's no-thing that a hun-dredmen or more__could ev-er do.__ Ibless therains down in A-

There's no-thing that a hun-dredmen or more__could ev-er do.__ Ibless therains__down in A-

ca A - fri - ca

ca A - fri - ca

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 70, 71, and 72. It features a vocal melody in the upper staves and a bass line in the lower staves. The lyrics are 'There's no-thing that a hun-dredmen or more__could ev-er do.__ Ibless therains down in A-'. The music is in 8/8 time and includes triplets in the bass line.

73

- fri-ca._ I bless the rains down in A - fri-ca._ I bless the rains down in A

- fri-ca._ I bless the rains_down in A - fri-ca._ I bless the rains_down in A

A - fri ca A - fri ca

A - fri ca A - fri ca

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 73, 74, and 75. The lyrics continue with '- fri-ca._ I bless the rains down in A - fri-ca._ I bless the rains down in A'. The music maintains the 8/8 time signature and includes triplets in the bass line.

77

- fri-ca._ I bless the rains down in A - fri-ca._ I bless the rains down in A

- fri-ca._ I bless the rains_down in A - fri-ca._ I bless the rains_down in A

A - fri ca A - fri ca

A - fri ca A - fri ca

Detailed description: This block contains the musical notation for measures 77, 78, and 79. The lyrics are '- fri-ca._ I bless the rains down in A - fri-ca._ I bless the rains down in A'. The music continues in 8/8 time with triplets in the bass line.

81

f

- fri-ca.____ Gon-na take some time to do_the things we ne - ver had.____

f

- fri-ca.____ *f* Gon-na take some time to do_the things we ne - ver had.____

f

— A - fri ca.____ things we ne - ver had.____

f

— A - fri ca.____ things we ne - ver had.____

85

mp

doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo____

p

doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo____

mp

doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo____

p

doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo____

mp

doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo____

p

doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo____

mp

doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo____

p

doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo____

89

pp

doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo____

ppp

doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo doo.

pp

doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo____

ppp

doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo doo.

pp

doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo____

ppp

doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo doo.

pp

doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo____

ppp

doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo doo.