



AFRICA

by Toto

arranged by
Jonathan Kilhams

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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
8 *p* doo doo_ doo doo doo doo doo_

Tenor 2
8 *p* doo doo_ doo doo doo doo doo_

Baritone
8 *p* doo doo_ doo doo doo doo doo_

Bass
8 *p* doo doo_ doo doo doo doo doo_

3
8 *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
8 *mp* oo_ *mf* oo_

mf I hear the drums echo-o-ing to- night. *mf* oo_

mp oo_ *mf* oo_

mp oo_ *f* She hears on - ly whis-pers of some qui-et con-ver

8

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

11

mf

oo_

mf

oo_

mf

oo_

f

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

14

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*

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_

20 *mp* *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._____

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

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

24 *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

A - - - - - fri - ca

A - - - - - fri - ca

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

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

— A - fri - ca. — A - fri -

— A - fri - ca. — A - fri -

30 8 Gon-na take some time to do. the things we ne - ver had. —

8 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 — doo doo_ doo doo doo doo dah —

mp doo doo_ doo doo doo doo dah — doo doo_ doo doo doo doo dah —

mp doo doo_ doo doo doo doo dah — doo doo_ doo doo doo doo dah —

mp doo doo_ doo doo doo doo dah — 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 oo

mf *mf*

doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo doo

mf *mf*

oo doo doo_doo doo doo doo doo oo

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 doo *mf* doo doo_doo doo doo doo dah

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

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

mp doo 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

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

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

81

f

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

f

- fri-ca.____ 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.