

For this composition, I wanted to first decide on a theme, and then compose the music around it, as opposed to the music coming first. I decided to write about the purity of nature being negatively affected by the human race and as a result, forced to re-establish itself, but in a compromised state.

To do this, I decided to have three sections, or episodes to the piece representing nature, discord and finally compromise. Each section is around 20 bars in length and In the first section, I introduce nature in its purest form. To do this, I wrote an entirely consonant four bar melody based mostly around the interval of a perfect 5th. The melody is balanced in its structure and stays within an octave. The opening theme is reintroduced after four bars by the violin, but augmented at twice the duration, and then by the guitar augmented at four times the duration. This produces a canon which I felt expressed the way in which different elements of nature have different jobs to do, but at the same time work in perfect harmony. Some other ways in which I tried to express the feeling of nature is with piano for the overall dynamics and with the use of legato to give an organic feel.

The second section introduces the human race and to represent them, I wrote a melody that contrasts in dynamics, time signature, articulation and rhythm. The second theme is also very dissonant in relation to the other three parts, opting for an F# against the background of a C major triad. The theme is introduced incrementally by the bass guitar as I felt that the lower register gave it more menace, and it abides by the time signature of 7/8 although written in 4/4 which creates even more of a clash. As the theme is slowly introduced, it creates echoes of imitation throughout the other parts until eventually, there is none of the first theme left, and therefore, no nature left.

In the third section, the roles of the parts reverse, so that the bass guitar now adopts the opening theme, but now in a distorted version of itself, and the piano, violin and guitar start to reintroduce the second theme but now in the time signature of 7/8. this suggests that both the human race and nature have had to compromise and evolve a new relationship with each other. A final crescendo brings the piece to an end with all parts finally playing together with a theme comprised of the rhythm of the first theme, with the harmony of the second.