Creator’s Statement

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My soundscape narrative follows the flow of events in the kitchen. This specific example shows the process of making something simple, bacon and eggs. There was no real message or moral behind the piece, I just wanted to create something audially appealing. To achieve this effect and create what I wanted, every sound is recorded individually. I did not stop my cooking process, but each sound is an individual recording so that I could tweak the timing and levels of each event.

There are at some points two or three levels in the track. The sizzling has a Low-Pass EQ filter so that it feels as though it’s in the background, while the sound focusses on the eggs being whisked and the toaster being pressed down, and both sounds have a High-Pass EQ to emphasize the idea even more. I also used the “Noise Reduction” liberally. Because my sounds were recorded in a kitchen, there seemed to be a lot of white noise in the background, potentially from the fridge or the air conditioning. Either way, this effect works surprisingly well to take out the drone of the sound, but preserve the crispness of it. The only downside to using so many audio tracks is that it was a bit hard to manipulate the Audacity workspace once I had reached the limit of tracks I can have on the screen.

Besides the EQ and Noise Reduction, I toyed around with normalization and simple enveloping so that the sounds flow better with one another, and overlap sound files so that there is no unintended silence between sounds.

Overall, I’m happy with the product that I made, and in the future, I’d attempt to use a proper microphone to record my sounds, and potentially some sound-dampening material to reduce the amount of background noise pre-editing.