

= Lacrymosa (song) =

" Lacrymosa " is a song recorded by American rock band Evanescence for their second studio album , The Open Door (2006) . The song was composed by Amy Lee and Terry Balsamo and produced by Dave Fortman . " Lacrymosa " incorporates the Lacrimosa sequence from Mozart 's Requiem (1791) throughout the song and Lee said that its main inspiration is the film Amadeus . The song is influenced by genres such as alternative metal , gothic rock , and post @-@ grunge . Set in slow tempo , it was originally written in the key of D minor but Lee and Balsamo transposed it into E minor .

The song garnered polarizing opinions from music critics , with some labeling it as one of the best songs on The Open Door , particularly complimenting the backing choir , while others lamented it one of the worst for the same reasons . According to Lee , " Lacrymosa " was originally written for the soundtrack of the movie The Chronicles of Narnia : The Lion , the Witch and the Wardrobe , but was not included because of its dark sound . The producers of Narnia , however , rebutted her claim , stating this information was " news to them " and that no Evanescence music had been planned for inclusion in the soundtrack . The song was part of the setlist during their The Open Door Tour .

= = Background and recording = =

" Lacrymosa " was written by Amy Lee and Terry Balsamo and produced by Dave Fortman . David Campbell , who has previously arranged music for the band and worked with them at the Billboard Music Awards , led a 22 @-@ piece orchestra for the song . The Millennium Choir performed the Lacrimosa sequence (" Lacrimosa dies illa Qua resurget ex favilla Judicandus homo reus . Huic ergo parce , Deus : Pie Jesu Domine , Dona eis requiem . Amen . ") and backing vocals throughout the song . Lee , the orchestra and choir recorded the song at a chapel in Seattle , Washington . In a number of interviews , Lee revealed that everyone asked about a collaboration between her and Mozart . She further stated that she always wanted to make Lacrimosa from Mozart 's Requiem a metal song , later adding that The Open Door was " the time for that , for trying things I hadn 't been brave enough to try before . " In an interview with VH1 News , Lee further explained the inspiration behind the song

" I saw Amadeus when I was nine years old and fell in love with Mozart . The part of Mozart 's Requiem called " Lacrymosa " [sic] is my favorite piece of music ever . I always wished we could cover it , but with programming and guitars and make it cool . It 's our moment to try all the things I wanted to and couldn 't , so I started messing with it in Protools . Terry wrote some riffs and turned it into this awesome metal epic . "

= = Composition , music and lyrics = =

According to the sheet music published by Alfred Publishing on musicnotes.com , " Lacrymosa " is an alternative metal , gothic rock and post @-@ grunge song set in a common time and performed in slow tempo of 48 beats per minute . Although the original Lacrimosa sequence was performed in D @-@ minor , it was transposed into E @-@ minor by Lee and Terry Balsamo . The instruments in the song are piano , guitar , violins and drums . Lee 's vocal range from the note of B3 and E5 ; the SATB choir ranges from the note of B2 to E4 . " Lacrymosa " has a " violin intro , synth worth of a Nine Inch Nails album , and Omen @-@ esque choral sections that are very haunting . "

According to Rob Sheffield from Rolling Stone , in " Lacrymosa " Lee is " sobbing hysterically over a grand piano . " According to the IGN reviewer , Ed Thompson , the song " takes the trademark Evanescence sound - Lee 's celestial voice , and adds her brooding lyrics ' I can 't change who I am , not this time , I won 't lie to keep you near me and in this short life , there 's no time to waste on giving up . My love wasn 't enough ' . " . Danielle Baudhuin from The Oshkosh West Index stated that " Lee 's astounding classical vocals are displayed with songs as the eerie ' Like You , ' and ' Lacrymosa ' . " She said that these two songs feature slower beats , and are more " piano @-@ themed melodies , followed shortly by the power guitar section of the song . " But she said that the

song was very similar to " Haunted " from Fallen adding , " creepy background choir vocals and violins send listeners into a gothic Cathedral @-@ like setting . " Jim Farber from nydailynews.com said that " Lacrymosa " will remind older listeners the ' 70s art @-@ rock horror Renaissance . Andree Farias from Christianity Today said " [But] the song has nothing to do with Lucy and her escapades into the land of Aslan . Rather , it 's just another bitter break @-@ up anthem : ' And you can blame it on me / Just set your guilt free , honey / I don 't want to hold you back now love . ' "

= = Critical reception = =

" Lacrymosa " received positive to mixed reviews from music critics . Bill Lamb from About.com put the song in the list of Top Tracks on The Open Door alongside " Sweet Sacrifice " , " Call Me When You 're Sober " , " Your Star " and " Good Enough " . He added " Elements such as the connection of the song ' Lacrymosa ' to the Mozart ' Requiem ' movement of the same name , or intense exploration of the benefits and costs of ' Lithium ' give hints that Evanescence could add intellectual heft to their obvious command of emotion . " Ed Thompson from IGN called " Lacrymosa " the " most memorable track " in the whole album . Don Kaye of the website Blabbermouth.net said that while the song was an " interesting experiment " it came " across as more of a stab at artsiness with its strings and choirs than a real song . "

An editor from The New York Times said that " Lacrymosa " is grandiose even by the album ' s standards . Sputnikmusic said that the song is the best on the album and gave the song a grade of 4 @.@ 5 along with " Good Enough " , adding that on the last two songs the album stops to be boring because of the variations . Simon Cosyns from The Sun concluded that " song titles such as ' Weight of the World ' , ' Lose Control ' and ' Lacrymosa ' tell you it ' s not a bed of roses , but there is a positive streak running through The Open Door " . On Postmedia News it was stated that Lee " achieves stunning notes on ' Lacrymosa ' , which employs a haunting choir " . Jordan Reimer from The Daily Princetonian praised Lee 's melodies and said that " Cloud Nine " and " Lacrymosa " were her best two arrangements . John Hood from Miami New Times made a story , " ' Call Me When You 're Sober ' sent a man away , ' Lacrymosa ' kept him there , and ' Cloud Nine ' told the clueless dolt why he would no longer ever be welcomed back . Joost Melis from the Dutch website FOK ! compared " Lacrymosa " with song of the bands Within Temptation and Nightwish . A writer of The Independent put the song on his list of " Download This " from The Open Door .

Brendan Butler from Cinema Blend was critical saying that " the worst song on The Open Door , i [t ?] s a toss up between ' Lacrymosa ' with its abominable choir and the obnoxious ' Lose Control ' , which features Amy crying for about five minutes . " A reviewer from Altsounds noted that the weakest tracks on the album are " Snow White Queen " , " Lacrymosa " , " Like You " , and " Lose Control " because " the vocal arraignments on those tracks just do not flow with the lyrics and music combined therefore making them annoying because [Lee 's] voice gets a bit unsettling and can only be tolerable to a certain extent . " Glenn Gamboa from The Providence Journal concluded that " maybe the over @-@ the @-@ top dramatics of ' Lacrymosa ' and piano ballad ' Your Star ' will be seen as so @-@ bad @-@ they ? re @-@ good . "

= = Live performances = =

The song was played live by the band during their tour for the promotion of The Open Door . On the concert which took place on November 17 , 2007 in Orem the band played " Lacrymosa " . During the performance Lee was wearing a purple tank , black skirt and black boots . They also performed the song at Hammerstein Ballroom in New York in 2006 . Evanescence played the song live at their secret New York gig which took place on November 4 , 2009 . The band played the song during a concert at Porto Alegre , Brazil on October 4 , 2012 .

= = Controversy and usage in media = =

In a 2004 interview with MTV News , Amy Lee revealed that she was composing music for the film ,

The Chronicles of Narnia : The Lion , the Witch and the Wardrobe . She also revealed that the producers of the movie offered her a small role , " They were like , ' Do you want to do a cameo ? ' And I was like , ' Hell yeah ! Let me die . I want to be somebody who gets murdered . ' So I don 't think that 's going to happen . " She later revealed that " Lacrymosa " was originally written for the film , but was mysteriously not included . However , according to producers , neither Lee or the band were approached to compose music for the film . Another song was also written for the movie , but it was rejected because of its dark sound . Lee went on to state that it was just " more great stuff [for The Open Door] " .

Lacrymosa is a corruption of the Latin term lacrimosa , which means " tearful " . The track title is also the scientific name for a species of moth known as *Catocala lacrymosa* , also known as the ' Tearful Underwing ' . The species of moth are featured throughout The Open Door 's cover booklet and on the cover of the " Sweet Sacrifice " radio promo CD . A clip of " Lacrymosa " was used in the video teaser for The Open Door .

= = Credits and personnel = =

Credits adapted from The Open Door liner notes .