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HUM 110

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Beethoven created music that would be enjoyed for decades. Music that would be used almost a century later during a war. One piece he created was “Beethoven’s Fifth Symphony”. The famous beginning even a young child would know. The first theme as it is called is used in media as well to create a dooming feeling. When hearing the first theme I immediately thought of disaster and the beginning of something awful. The tension builds through the music creating an anxiety with the minor key. As the music continues there are parts that crescendo and become faster reminding me of a chase. It is like a journey and now you have been caught and are trying to run from what is coming.

The development then comes, and your worst nightmare is coming true. You have been caught and disaster is about to strike once again. The development is a similar theme but have been slightly changed so it is still familiar. This part of the music reminds me almost as if you will not survive and it is the end.

The recapitulation brings the first theme back but brings sadness. There is determination and then the second theme comes back, and the war has been won. Everything is peaceful then the tension builds again with the fast pace, and this is as you are trying to return home from your journey. You think your journey will be smooth sailing, but it involves more running.

The coda the most intense part of it all. A constant battle back and forth between bad and then a light heartedness of good. You reach a final point where you have won, and it is a celebration for all that has happened. Then bringing the first theme back to a familiar feeling reminding you that you are home now. The good always wins against the bad.

Beethoven created several fantastic pieces that touched the hearts of many. The first movement of his fifth symphony is only part of all he has created. The first theme of this is known throughout the world through many different ages. This piece has been heard through generations and has brought power to individuals.