

Sound Waves

As the tinted yellow lights begin to fade, the red velvet curtains begin to draw back. Once removed, the massive curtains reveal a symphony. Fortunately, I was lucky enough to be able to snag a seat for this once in a lifetime performance. Although, to my surprise, it appears that I was the only one to buy a ticket to this show. Looking down at the program, the word *Peace* stares back at me. Assuming that that's the title of tonight's performance, my ears perk up as the first notes soothe my ears.

While the soft clarinets set the scene for the rest of the instruments, my body fills with a sense of calm and tranquility. Each individual sound emanates from a different source of musical origin. The relaxing tones feel new but familiar all at once. The harmonies feel like pieces that have been etched into my heart. The sound waves are engraved in my mind, refusing to leave. The soft serenity of sounds becomes even softer, signaling that the first song is over.

Suddenly, a thunderous clap —perhaps a crash symbol— echoes through my head. Before my mind can register anything else, the trumpets cross the threshold and unleash a barrage of noise against my ears. It's a cacophony of sounds clashing at war. The extreme difference between the two songs is unreal to me, one feels soft and gentle while the other is causing my heart to beat out of my chest. Strangely enough, these melodies also feel familiar to me. These sound waves, feeling completely different from the previous melody, are pressing against my ears. They are tugging at my heartstrings, and I'm left with that thought as the second song gradually comes to an end.

Then, as if I've traveled back in time, the same chorus of instruments as the first song starts to commence. Although there are some slight changes to the melody, a piccolo here and a

violin there, the tune feels renewed. It sounds like it has a different view of the world since its original debut. The music begins to fade away. As the realization hits me like a tidal wave, the symphony has reached its finale.

With every single freshly played note and harmony resting in my ears, an epiphany strikes me. I felt connected to every single pitch, is this what peace feels like? No, it's what peace *sounds* like. This symphony brought peace to life, perhaps even the whole world itself through sound waves. All of the world's tranquilizing feelings conflicting with the intensity of the other emotions, then finally settling back down with a new perspective of life. Every note fits into the puzzle of peace. All the different feelings like chaos, pain, and victorious within our world were brought to life through these musical harmonies. The world certainly isn't perfect, but if we all find our own sound waves of peace, we can help the world seem like a symphony everyday.