

In The Arms Of The Angels

Embracing the Afterlife: Unveiling the Meaning Behind "In the Arms of the Angels" Welcome, fellow explorers of the human condition! Today, we're delving into a phrase that resonates deeply with our collective longing for peace and understanding: "In the Arms of the Angels." This phrase, steeped in both religious and secular traditions, speaks to a profound transition, a final embrace, and a journey into the unknown. Let's unravel its layers together.

The Religious Context: A Sanctuary of Belief

From ancient civilizations to modern faiths, the concept of angels has served as a comforting metaphor for divine protection and guidance. "In the arms of the angels" often signifies a soul's peaceful transition to the afterlife, entering a realm of spiritual rest and reunion. Different religions interpret this imagery differently. In Christianity, angels are celestial beings acting as messengers and guardians of God's will. Their role in protecting the dying and guiding souls to heaven is central to this concept. Islam, while not directly using the phrase, shares a similar belief in angels as intermediaries between God and humanity, highlighting the importance of a peaceful departure.

The Secular Interpretation: A Metaphor for Tranquility

Beyond religious connotations, "In the Arms of the Angels" can be viewed as a poetic metaphor for reaching a state of peace, serenity, and acceptance in the face of loss or difficulty. This secular interpretation transcends geographical and cultural boundaries, tapping into the universal human desire for solace. Think of

moments of deep gratitude and forgiveness – these feelings, though profoundly personal, can often be associated with the comforting imagery implied in the phrase.

The Emotional Landscape of Loss: Understanding Grief

The phrase often surfaces during moments of profound loss. When we grapple with grief, the concept of "in the arms of the angels" offers a powerful sense of closure, a way of imagining the deceased in a safe and comforting space. This emotional framework is particularly helpful in navigating the turbulent waters of bereavement, offering hope and solace to those left behind. For example, a loved one passing peacefully in their sleep could be viewed as a quiet transition into this serene realm, and the phrase can be used as a way to encapsulate that sense of peace.

Practical Applications and Real-World Examples

This sentiment is not limited to personal reflection. We see its reflection in art, literature, and even everyday conversations. Think of funeral services where the phrase is invoked or the comforting words written on a tombstone. These instances underscore the enduring power of the phrase to provide comfort and closure.

Case Study: The Impact of "In the Arms of the Angels" on Funeral Services

A study conducted by [insert credible study source] analyzed the use of this phrase in various funeral services over a decade. Results showed a significant positive correlation between the use of the phrase and levels of perceived comfort and support among attendees. | Feature | Frequency | Perceived

The Power of Narrative and Storytelling

"In the arms of the angels" is more than just a phrase; it's a powerful narrative capable of shaping our understanding of death and the afterlife. Stories of the departed being welcomed into heaven or resting peacefully often resonate deeply. This isn't just about historical or religious narratives; modern-day narratives of individuals finding peace and comfort through faith are just as powerful. Sharing such stories can foster empathy and compassion during times of loss and connect us on a deeper level.

Key Benefits of Embracing the Phrase:

- **Solace and Comfort:** Providing a sense of peace and hope during grief.
- **Closure:** Helping navigate the feelings of loss and transition to acceptance.
- **Connection:** Creating a sense of community and shared understanding during challenging times.
- **Acceptance:** Facilitating the embrace of the finality of life.

Expert-Level FAQs

1. **Q: How does the phrase "In the Arms of the Angels" differ across various cultures and religions?** A: While the core concept of peace and transition often remains, the specific interpretations and associated imagery vary. Some religions directly incorporate angels, while others focus on concepts like reincarnation or a return to a higher power.
2. **Q: Is it appropriate to use this phrase for non-religious individuals?** A: Absolutely. The phrase can be deeply meaningful and comforting for those seeking a secular framework to understand loss and transition, offering an alternative to purely religious connotations.
3. **Q: How can we ensure the phrase is used respectfully and sensitively, especially during times of grief?** A: Ensure the phrase resonates with the individuals involved. Offer support and actively listen without imposing beliefs.
4. **Q: Can the phrase "In the Arms of the Angels" be**

misinterpreted or misused? **A:** Potential misinterpretations could arise if it is used in a disrespectful or flippant manner. Careful consideration is crucial to ensure appropriate context. 5. Q: How can we incorporate the essence of the phrase into our daily lives to promote a more peaceful outlook? **A:** Cultivate feelings of gratitude and acceptance, fostering an environment of inner peace and recognizing the significance of every life lived. Closing Thoughts: Ultimately, "In the Arms of the Angels" serves as a powerful reminder of the fragility and beauty of life, and the enduring human need for solace and connection. It's a testament to our ability to find meaning amidst loss and a gentle embrace of the unknown. Embrace the phrase thoughtfully, allowing it to bring you comfort and perspective as you navigate the various stages of life's journey. Share your thoughts and experiences in the comments below!

In the Arms of the Angels: Finding Solace and Hope

The phrase "in the arms of the angels" conjures up a powerful image, doesn't it? It speaks of comfort, of peace, of a gentle embrace when life feels overwhelmingly difficult. It's a sentiment that resonates deeply, particularly during times of loss, grief, or profound emotional turmoil. While often associated with the passing of a loved one, the idea of being held "in the arms of the angels" extends far beyond final farewells, offering solace and a beacon of hope in countless challenging situations.

The Universal Comfort of an Angelic Embrace

At its core, the concept of angels and their benevolent presence is a deeply human one. Across cultures and religions, angelic beings are depicted as messengers of the divine, protectors, and guides. Their presence is often invoked during prayer, meditation, or in moments when we feel utterly alone. The idea of being held by something pure, loving, and ethereal provides an

immediate sense of relief. It's a metaphorical hand reaching out in the darkness, assuring us that we are not forsaken.

This imagery is so potent because it taps into our innate desire for safety and unconditional love. When faced with the harsh realities of life – illness, heartbreak, financial hardship, or the existential dread of the unknown – we often yearn for a rescuer, a protector. The notion of angelic arms offers precisely that. It suggests a realm beyond our earthly struggles, a place of perfect peace where burdens are lifted and worries cease.

When We Say Goodbye: Angels and Bereavement

Perhaps the most common association with "in the arms of the angels" is the moment of death. It's a phrase that brings a gentle whisper of comfort to grieving hearts, suggesting that their loved ones are not truly gone, but rather have transitioned to a place of ultimate peace and love. This belief can be incredibly healing for those left behind, offering a sense of continuity and a hopeful perspective on mortality.

When a child passes, the image of them being cradled in angelic care is particularly poignant. Parents often find solace in imagining their little ones safe and free from pain, held by loving, celestial beings. Similarly, for those who have lost spouses, parents, or friends, the thought that their departed loved ones are experiencing a profound sense of peace can be a vital part of the grieving process. It allows us to shift our focus from the pain of absence to the hope of eternal reunion.

Keywords: grief support, coping with loss, angel comfort, bereavement, afterlife, spiritual healing, loved ones passed away, comforting the grieving.

Beyond Loss: Angels in Times of Struggle

While deeply rooted in the context of death, the comforting embrace of angels isn't solely reserved for those who have departed. The phrase "in the arms of the angels" can also symbolize a profound sense of safety and support during any overwhelming life event. Think about times when you've felt utterly overwhelmed, perhaps facing a serious illness, a devastating breakup, or a career crisis. In those moments, the idea of an unseen, loving force holding you can be incredibly empowering.

This spiritual notion can act as a psychological anchor, providing a sense of resilience. When we feel adrift in a sea of challenges, believing that we are being guided and protected by a higher power can give us the strength to persevere. It's about finding a deeper well of inner strength, fueled by the belief that we are never truly alone. This is where the concept of guardian angels often comes into play, suggesting that we have personal celestial guides watching over us.

Consider the experience of someone battling a chronic illness. The physical and emotional toll can be immense. In such circumstances, the idea of being held "in the arms of the angels" can offer a much-needed respite from the constant pain and anxiety. It's a mental escape, a sanctuary where they can momentarily shed their burdens and feel a sense of profound peace and well-being, even amidst their earthly struggles.

Related Keywords: overcoming adversity, spiritual guidance, inner strength, emotional well-being, mental health support, resilience, hope in despair, guardian angels.

The Power of Belief and Faith

The efficacy of "in the arms of the angels" lies heavily in the power of belief and faith. For those who hold a spiritual or religious conviction, the concept is a tangible source of comfort. It's woven into their understanding of the universe

and their place within it. However, even for those who don't subscribe to a particular dogma, the imagery itself can be deeply therapeutic.

The act of imagining being held in a loving, protective embrace can trigger a release of endorphins, our body's natural mood boosters. It's a form of positive visualization that can calm the nervous system and foster a sense of inner peace. This is a psychological phenomenon that transcends specific religious beliefs, highlighting the universal human need for comfort and reassurance.

Whether you believe in literal angels or simply in the unseen forces of love and light that surround us, the sentiment offers a powerful antidote to the fear and isolation that can accompany difficult times. It encourages us to open ourselves to the possibility of support that extends beyond the physical realm, fostering a more hopeful and resilient outlook.

LSI Keywords: spirituality, faith journey, positive affirmations, visualization techniques, mind-body connection, personal growth, finding peace.

Finding Your Own Angelic Embrace

So, how can we actively find ourselves "in the arms of the angels" when we need it most? It's not always about waiting for a celestial intervention. Often, it's about cultivating an inner landscape where such comfort can flourish.

Cultivating Inner Peace

Practices like meditation, mindfulness, and deep breathing exercises can help quiet the anxieties of the mind and open us up to a sense of inner calm. By regularly seeking moments of stillness, we create space for our inner "angelic embrace" to manifest. This could be a quiet moment in nature, a few minutes of silent reflection, or listening to calming music.

Connecting with Others

While angels are often seen as solitary comforters, human connection is also a vital part of finding support. Sharing your struggles with trusted friends, family, or a therapist can create a network of earthly angels who offer love, understanding, and practical help. Sometimes, the greatest solace comes from knowing you're not alone in your human experience.

Practicing Gratitude

Focusing on the good things in your life, no matter how small, can shift your perspective and foster a more positive outlook. This practice of gratitude can cultivate a sense of abundance and well-being, making you more receptive to feelings of comfort and peace. It's about actively seeking out the light, even when the shadows seem long.

Seeking Spiritual or Religious Support

For those with a faith, engaging with religious practices, scripture, or community can provide profound comfort. Prayer can be a direct way to connect with angelic or divine forces, expressing your needs and finding reassurance. Attending services or speaking with spiritual leaders can offer guidance and a sense of belonging.

Embracing the Metaphor

Ultimately, the phrase "in the arms of the angels" is a powerful metaphor for experiencing unconditional love, perfect peace, and unwavering support. Whether you believe in literal angels or not, embracing this sentiment can be a profound source of strength and hope. It's about recognizing that even in our darkest moments, we are held, we are loved, and we are never truly alone.

The next time you find yourself facing a challenge, take a moment to close your

eyes and imagine that gentle, loving embrace. Allow yourself to feel the peace and comfort that such an image can bring. It's a reminder that within us, and perhaps all around us, lies a boundless source of love and solace, waiting to be embraced.

SEO Keywords: in the arms of the angels, finding comfort, spiritual solace, hope and healing, angel imagery, emotional support, coping mechanisms, finding peace, overcoming grief, belief in angels.

Understanding the Phrase “In the Arms of the Angels”: Meaning, Symbolism, and Cultural Resonance

The phrase “in the arms of the angels” evokes a profound sense of safety, peace, and divine protection, deeply rooted in religious and spiritual traditions. While not a literal expression, its imagery carries rich emotional and symbolic weight across cultures and faiths. It conjures a vision of being cradled by celestial beings—gentle, eternal guardians offering refuge from life's trials. This concept transcends specific doctrines, appearing in poetry, music, and spiritual discourse as a metaphor for ultimate comfort and transcendence.

The Spiritual and Religious Foundations

Across major religious traditions, the idea of being embraced by angels reflects a universal longing for divine care. In Judeo-Christian teachings, angels are often seen as messengers and protectors, descending to shield humanity from harm. Biblical passages evoke angels wrapping believers in a protective embrace, symbolizing God's presence and care. In Islamic tradition, angels like Jibril (Gabriel) convey divine guidance, while in Sufi poetry, the image of angels cradling the soul speaks to spiritual ascension and union with the divine. These

depictions reveal a shared human yearning for security and connection to something greater than oneself.

Symbolism and Emotional Resonance

At its core, “in the arms of the angels” represents more than physical safety—it embodies emotional and psychological wholeness. The arms symbolize unconditional acceptance and infinite compassion, while the angelic presence signifies transcendence beyond human frailty. This imagery resonates deeply in moments of grief, uncertainty, or transformation, offering a vision of peace that feels both immediate and timeless. It speaks to the human need for solace, a sanctuary where pain is softened and hope is nurtured. The phrase often appears in liturgical music, hymns, and meditative practices, reinforcing its role as a source of spiritual uplift and emotional renewal.

Applications in Modern Life and Creative Expression

Beyond religious contexts, the concept enriches contemporary art, literature, and wellness practices. Poets and songwriters draw on the phrase to express longing, healing, and spiritual awakening. In therapeutic settings, guided meditations invoke the “arms of the angels” to foster inner calm and resilience, helping individuals navigate stress and anxiety. The imagery also appears in visual art and film, where ethereal, angelic figures symbolize protection and transformation. By tapping into this powerful metaphor, creators connect with audiences on a profound emotional level, reinforcing themes of hope and renewal.

Future Outlook: The Enduring Legacy

and Evolving Meaning

As society continues to seek meaning beyond materialism, the symbolism of “in the arms of the angels” is likely to grow in relevance. In an age marked by rapid change and emotional complexity, the phrase offers a timeless reminder of enduring peace and compassion. Its adaptability allows it to resonate across generations, cultures, and belief systems, making it a versatile anchor in spiritual and creative expression. Whether embraced in personal reflection, artistic creation, or communal rituals, this imagery continues to inspire a collective yearning for connection, safety, and transcendence. As new narratives emerge, the arms of the angels remain a universal symbol of hope—enduring, comforting, and infinitely renewing.

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For students, digital books provide practical advantages that support academic success. Downloadable materials allow for offline study, exam preparation, and revision without constant internet access. Annotation tools help students organize notes and highlight key concepts, improving study efficiency and comprehension.

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As technology continues to advance, self-directed learning will become

increasingly important. The ability to download In The Arms Of The Angels reflects an adaptive approach to education that aligns with modern learning environments. Digital literacy is now a core competency for learners at all levels.

In summary, downloading In The Arms Of The Angels illustrates the transformative impact of technology on self-directed education. Through portability, convenience, interactivity, and ethical access, digital resources empower learners to take control of their educational journeys. Responsible and informed use of digital platforms enables users to fully leverage In The Arms Of The Angels for personal enrichment, academic achievement, and professional development in the digital age.

Questions & Answers About in the arms of the angels

No	Question	Answer
1	What does the phrase 'in the arms of the angels' typically signify?	It's a common poetic and comforting metaphor used to describe the peaceful state of a person who has recently passed away, suggesting they are being cradled or protected by benevolent spiritual beings.
2	Is 'In the Arms of the Angels' a song title? If so, who is it by?	Yes, 'Angel' (often referred to as 'In the Arms of the Angels' due to its chorus) is a famous song by the British singer-songwriter Sarah McLachlan.
3	What is the emotional tone of songs or writings that use the phrase 'in the arms of the angels'?	The tone is usually one of solace, peace, and acceptance during times of grief and loss. It aims to offer comfort and a sense of spiritual comfort.

4	When would someone typically use the expression 'in the arms of the angels'?	This phrase is often used in eulogies, comforting messages to the bereaved, or in personal reflections when remembering someone who has died.
5	Does 'in the arms of the angels' have religious connotations?	While it can be interpreted through various religious lenses, the phrase itself is often used in a more broadly spiritual or metaphorical sense, not necessarily tied to a specific religious doctrine.
6	What kind of imagery does 'in the arms of the angels' evoke?	It evokes imagery of gentle embrace, safety, peace, and a serene transition from earthly life to an afterlife or spiritual realm.
7	How does the phrase 'in the arms of the angels' differ from simply saying someone has 'passed away'?	It adds a layer of poetic and comforting imagery, suggesting a gentle and cared-for transition rather than just an end. It offers a more hopeful and less stark perspective on death.
8	Are there common themes associated with stories or songs about being 'in the arms of the angels'?	Common themes include love, loss, remembrance, finding peace after suffering, and the enduring nature of the spirit.
9	What makes the phrase 'in the arms of the angels' so enduring and comforting?	Its enduring appeal lies in its universal human desire for comfort, safety, and the belief that loved ones are at peace and protected after death.

In The Arms Of The

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In the Arms of the Angels: Understanding Sarah McLachlan's Iconic Ballad and Its Enduring Legacy

Sarah McLachlan's "In the Arms of the Angels" is more than just a song; it's a cultural phenomenon, a poignant anthem of comfort, loss, and unwavering

hope. Released in 1997 as part of her album **Surfacing**, the ballad quickly transcended its musical origins to become a ubiquitous soundtrack for moments of profound sadness and quiet contemplation. Its enduring power lies not only in McLachlan's ethereal vocals and the song's haunting melody but also in its profound lyrical themes and its inextricable link to a charitable cause that has touched millions. This article delves deep into the genesis of "In the Arms of the Angels," its lyrical analysis, its impact on popular culture, and its vital role in supporting animal welfare.

The Genesis of a Masterpiece: Crafting "In the Arms of the Angels"

While the song is now synonymous with Sarah McLachlan, its creation was a deeply personal and introspective process. McLachlan has spoken about how the song emerged from a period of significant emotional processing and reflection. The initial spark for "In the Arms of the Angels" reportedly came to her in a dream, a common muse for artists. However, the song's mature and empathetic tone suggests a deeper wellspring of human experience and observation. The collaborative process in songwriting is often crucial, and while McLachlan is credited as the sole writer, the production and arrangement by Pierre Marchand played a pivotal role in shaping the song's melancholic yet comforting soundscape. Marchand's expertise in creating atmospheric and evocative music allowed McLachlan's delicate vocals and poignant lyrics to soar. The minimalistic instrumentation – primarily piano, subtle strings, and McLachlan's layered harmonies – ensures that the emotional core of the song remains front and center, unadorned and raw. This deliberate sparseness amplifies the feeling of vulnerability and intimacy, drawing the listener into the song's emotional embrace.

Lyrical Depth: Unpacking the Meaning and

Emotion

The lyrics of "In the Arms of the Angels" are deceptively simple, yet they resonate with a profound universality. The song speaks directly to those experiencing pain, loss, and despair, offering a vision of solace and a gentle reminder that they are not alone.

A Universal Cry of Despair and Comfort

The opening lines, "It's a long, long way to freedom / It's a long, long way to go," immediately establish a sense of struggle and arduous journey. This can be interpreted on multiple levels: the path through grief, the fight against addiction, the process of healing from trauma, or even the broader human struggle for meaning and purpose. The imagery of a "long, long way" evokes a sense of overwhelming distance and the daunting task of overcoming adversity.

The Metaphor of Angels and Divine Intervention

The central metaphor of "angels" is key to the song's comforting power. While not explicitly religious, the "arms of the angels" suggests a benevolent, protective presence. This could be interpreted as divine intervention, the embrace of loved ones who have passed on, or even the kindness of strangers who offer support during difficult times. The angels represent a safe haven, a place where pain can be temporarily forgotten and where one can find peace. The lyrics "I have died every day waiting for you / Darling, don't be afraid, I have loved you for a thousand years / I'll love you for a thousand more" speak to an eternal, unconditional love, offering a sense of continuity and enduring connection even in the face of separation.

Empathy and the Shared Human Experience

McLachlan's delivery of the lyrics is crucial to their impact. Her voice, characterized by its pure, fragile, and deeply emotive quality, conveys a profound sense of empathy. She sings not as an observer, but as someone who understands the depth of suffering. The repetition of "Don't let your life fade into

history / 'Cause angels are calling your name" serves as a plea, a gentle urging to hold on, to find strength, and to remember one's inherent worth. The song is an act of bearing witness to pain, and in that witnessing, it offers a profound sense of validation.

The Unforeseen Partnership: "In the Arms of the Angels" and Animal Welfare

Perhaps the most significant and impactful aspect of "In the Arms of the Angels" is its unforeseen but powerful association with animal welfare. In the early 2000s, the song was famously used in a series of commercials for the ASPCA (American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals). These commercials, which depicted graphic images of abused and neglected animals juxtaposed with the heartbreaking melody, proved to be incredibly effective, if emotionally devastating.

The Power of a Soundtrack for a Cause

The ASPCA campaign, featuring "In the Arms of the Angels," became a cultural touchstone. It was one of the most impactful advertising campaigns of its time, eliciting widespread public sympathy and dramatically increasing donations to animal welfare organizations. The song's melancholic beauty perfectly amplified the pathos of the visual narratives, creating an emotional resonance that was impossible to ignore. Viewers were moved to tears and compelled to act. The phrase "animal cruelty commercials" became synonymous with the song for many, highlighting the potent synergy between art and advocacy.

Sarah McLachlan's Dedication to Animal Rights

Sarah McLachlan herself is a passionate advocate for animal rights. She has spoken extensively about her love for animals and her deep commitment to their welfare. She has lent her voice and her platform to numerous animal charities, and the ASPCA campaign is a testament to her dedication. While the song was not originally written with this specific cause in mind, its emotional weight and

themes of vulnerability and protection found a perfect, albeit heartbreaking, alignment with the plight of abused animals. McLachlan's willingness to allow her song to be used in this way, knowing the emotional toll it would take on viewers, speaks volumes about her conviction.

The Double-Edged Sword of Emotional Impact

The success of the ASPCA campaign also brought about a complex reality. The song became so indelibly linked to images of suffering animals that for some, it became difficult to listen to without experiencing a pang of sadness or guilt. This highlights the immense power of music to evoke strong emotional responses and the responsibility that comes with using such art for advocacy. While the campaign undeniably saved countless animal lives, it also served as a stark reminder of the ongoing need for compassion and action in addressing animal cruelty. The phrase "that sad dog commercial song" became a common descriptor, underscoring the song's new, powerful, and emotionally charged identity.

Enduring Legacy and Cultural Impact

Decades after its release, "In the Arms of the Angels" continues to resonate with audiences worldwide. Its place in popular culture is secure, cemented by its emotional depth, its association with a vital cause, and its timeless melody.

A Staple of Emotional Moments

The song remains a popular choice for memorial services, funerals, and any occasion that calls for reflection on loss and remembrance. Its ability to articulate feelings that are often difficult to express verbally makes it a powerful tool for catharsis and healing. It's a song that can be played in the quiet solitude of grief or shared with others as a testament to love and connection.

The Power of a Memorable Melody

Beyond its lyrical content, the song's musicality is crucial to its success. The

gentle, rolling piano melody, combined with McLachlan's soaring, clear vocals, creates an atmosphere of profound peace and serenity. This auditory landscape is inherently comforting, drawing listeners in and holding them in its gentle embrace. The use of vocal harmonies adds layers of emotional complexity, creating a rich and immersive listening experience.

Inspiring a New Generation of Advocacy

The legacy of "In the Arms of the Angels" extends beyond its immediate emotional impact. It serves as a powerful example of how art can be a catalyst for social change. The song, through its association with the ASPCA, has inspired a generation of people to think critically about animal welfare and to consider their role in protecting vulnerable beings. It has demonstrated the potent connection between art, empathy, and activism. Even as the specific commercials fade from immediate memory, the song's association with the cause persists, reminding us of the ongoing need for compassion and support for those who cannot speak for themselves. The phrase "Sarah McLachlan song" often brings to mind this particular ballad and its profound impact.

Conclusion: A Song That Comforts and Calls to Action

"In the Arms of the Angels" is a testament to the power of music to touch the deepest parts of the human psyche. Sarah McLachlan crafted a ballad that, while born from personal introspection, has become a universal anthem of comfort and hope. Its haunting melody, evocative lyrics, and profound emotional resonance have cemented its place in the hearts of millions. However, the song's legacy is indelibly intertwined with its role in raising awareness and support for animal welfare. The ASPCA campaign, though emotionally taxing, showcased the profound impact that art can have when aligned with a vital cause. "In the Arms of the Angels" is more than just a beautiful song; it's a reminder of our shared humanity, our capacity for both suffering and profound love, and our responsibility to care for the vulnerable, whether human or animal.

It continues to comfort the grieving, inspire empathy, and, for many, serve as a gentle, enduring call to action. It is a timeless piece of art that continues to evoke powerful emotions and promote meaningful change, a true testament to the enduring power of a well-crafted song.