

Every Little Thing She Does Is Magic

Words and music by Sting, arranged by Claus Boesser-Ferrari



I rediscovered “Every Little Thing She Does is Magic” in the early '90s while touring Brazil, where it played constantly on the radio. At a soccer game in Rio de Janeiro, I saw a young boy accompanying a singer by playing a complex samba rhythm on an empty Coca Cola can that he'd filled with sand. I immediately realized how under-developed my own sense of rhythm was.

After studying various percussion techniques, I could hear the Latin music elements in “Every Little Thing She Does is Magic”—especially the way Brazilian tambourine patterns influence the phrasing of the melody, and how the rhythm of the *surdo* (the large bass drum in Brazilian percussion ensembles) informs the bass line. I felt that influence when I recorded this arrangement on my album *Welcome*.

My goal was to create a solo-guitar arrangement that highlighted this Latin tinge. One of the fascinating things about Brazilian music is how multiple rhythmic layers get stacked on top of each other in an interlocking system. Notice how I integrated a Cuban clave pattern into the introduction (the harmonics in measures 1–2) and the *surdo* pattern into my bass line (measures 7–8). These patterns prepare the listener for further rhythmic variety that finds its way into the song's melody.

I deviate from the original chord progression at the end of each chorus and throughout the bridge because the new chord changes fit better in this special rhythmic context. I've also changed the melody on the bridge to encourage other players to try the same thing. For a progression closer to what the Police played on their recording, play through the chord symbols for the vocal melody on page 104.

—CLAUS BOESSER-FERRARI

Capo II

Intro N.C. (no chord) (play four times)

Verse F_{sus2} G_{sus4}

Am7 G_{sus4/B} F_{sus2} G_{sus4} Am7 G/B

F_{sus2} G_{sus4} Am7 G_{sus4/B} C_{maj7} F G7 C_{maj7} F G7

13

The musical score is presented in three systems. Each system consists of a treble clef staff with a melody line and a bass clef staff with a guitar tablature. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 180. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#). The time signature is 4/4. The score includes an introduction with four measures of natural chords (N.C.) and a verse starting with F_{sus2} and G_{sus4}. Chord changes are indicated above the staff. The tablature includes fret numbers and techniques like harmonics (H) and bends (marked with a tilde ~). Measure numbers 7, 13, and 19 are indicated at the start of their respective lines.

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Chorus

Chorus

Cmaj7 F G7 Cmaj7 G C G C

G C G B^bsus2

*Strum measures 28-37.

Fmaj7#11 G7sus4

1. 2.

Bridge

Bridge

F^{sus}2 G Am7 G6 F^{sus}2 G Am7 G6

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G Am G/B G A

D.S. al Coda

Coda

N.C. (no chord) (repeat and fade)

Chords, Capo II:

Fsus2 (T)x301x, Gsus4 3x001x, Am7 x0201x, Gsus4/B x2001x, Cmaj7 x32000, F 134211, G7 2x3004, G 2x0034, C x32010, Ab 134211 4fr., Ebsus2 x13411 6fr.

Verse

Fsus2 Gsus4 Am7 Gsus4/B Fsus2

1. Though I've tried before to tell her of the feelings I have for her in my heart

2. See additional lyrics.

Gsus4 Am7 Gsus4/B Fsus2 Gsus4 Am7

6 Every time that I come near her I just lose my nerve as I've

Chorus

Gsus4/B Cmaj7 F G7 Cmaj7 F G7 Cmaj7 F G7 Cmaj7 G C

12 done from the start Every little thing she does is mag-

G C G C

18 ic Everything she do just turns me on Even though my life before was tragic Now I know my

G **A \flat** *Fine* **E \flat sus2** **1. F \sharp sus2** **G \sharp sus4** **A \flat 7** **G \sharp sus4/B**

23 love for her ___ goes on _____ 2. Do I

2. A \flat **E \flat sus2** **A \flat** **G \sharp sus4** **F \sharp sus2** **G \sharp sus4**

30 I re-solve to call ___ her up a thou-sand ___ times a day

F \sharp sus2 **G \sharp sus4** **A \flat** **G \sharp sus4** **A \flat**

36 and ask her if she'll mar - ry me in some old - fash-ioned way ___ But my si-lent fears ___ have gripped

B \flat sus2 **A \flat** **B \flat sus2**

41 ___ me long be - fore ___ I reach ___ the phone Long be - fore ___

A \flat **B \flat sus2** **A \flat** **B \flat sus2** **C** *D.S. al Fine*

44 ___ my tongue ___ has tripped ___ me Must I al - ways be a - lone Every lit-tle

<p>1. F\sharpsus2 G\sharpsus4 Am7 G\sharpsus4/B F\sharpsus2 G\sharpsus4 Am7 G\sharpsus4/B F\sharpsus2 G\sharpsus4 Am7 G\sharpsus4/B Cmaj7</p>	<p>2. F\sharpsus2 G\sharpsus4 Am7 G\sharpsus4/B F\sharpsus2 G\sharpsus4 Am7 G\sharpsus4/B F\sharpsus2 G\sharpsus4 Am7 G\sharpsus4/B Cmaj7</p>
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F G7 Cmaj7 F G7 Cmaj7 F G7 C **F G7 Cmaj7 F G7 Cmaj7 F G7 C**

Chorus

G **C**
 Every little thing she does is magic

G **C**
 Everything she do just turns me on

G **C**
 Even though my life before was tragic

G **B \flat sus2** **F \sharp maj7 \sharp 11** **G7sus4**
 Now I know my love for her goes on

Repeat Chorus

A \flat **G \sharp sus4** **F \sharp sus2** **G \sharp sus4**
 I resolve to call her up a thousand times a day

F \sharp sus2 **G \sharp sus4** **A \flat** **G \sharp sus4**
 And ask her if she'll marry me in some old-fashioned way

A \flat **B \flat sus2** **A \flat** **B \flat sus2**
 But my silent fears have gripped me long before I reach the phone

A \flat **B \flat sus2** **A \flat** **B \flat sus2** **C**
 Long before my tongue has tripped me, must I always be alone?

Repeat Chorus