## "Owner of a Lonely Heart"

Yes

The British progressive rock band Yes was formed in 1968, and though they had a string of AOR hits like "Roundabout" and "Long Distance Runaround," it wasn't until 1983, with the release of "Owner of a Lonely Heart" (from 90125), that Yes finally reached the top of the charts. The band's most recent member at the time, guitarist Trevor Rabin, was the song's primary architect; he wrote everything from the aggressive riffs to the warped guitar solo—all transcribed here for your benefit.

### THE TONALITY AND RHYTHM WORK

"Owner of a Lonely Heart" contains several different key centers. The intro, verses, and choruses are all in A Dorian—which can be seen as the same as A minor, but with a raised sixth (F\$). (Since Guitar Edge eschews modal key signatures, the transcription is written in A minor.) For more on the Dorian mode, see this month's Riff Notes for Opeth's "Windowpane," on page 68. The bridges, meanwhile, modulate to the parallel (sharing the same root note) key of A major, and in the outro the song modulates again, to the key of F major.

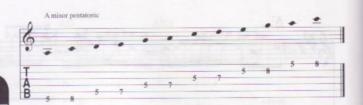
One of the song's main parts, Rhy Fig. 1 is simple enough—just power chords, all fingered, lowest note to highest, 1-3-4 or 1-3-3. Where you see rests, be sure to silence the strings with either your pick hand or fret hand. In bar 12, Rhy. Fig. 1 is joined by a cool arpeggiated figure, Riff A (Gtr. 2), based on the chord shapes diagrammed in Fig. 1. (Note that in the transcription, the chord symbols above Riff A refer to Gtr. 1's part.) In the sixth page's interlude, Riff A is complemented by a slightly different, open-position version of itself using the grips shown in Fig. 1A. (The symbols in the transcription represent the harmony implied by both guitars.) Play through both sets of chords and compare the contrasting timbres between the two A7sus4 chords.



## THE SOLO

The harmonized solo kicks off in the A minor pentatonic scale, shown in 5th position in Fig. 2. To play the scale in a higher position, as Rabin does later in the solo, simply move each note up 12 frets. In bars 7–8 of the solo, the sets of three slanted lines in notation and tab call for tremolo picking. Where you see this indication, pick rapidly and evenly in alternating strokes. In the eighth bar, a separate guitar plays unison bends—a lower note is bent up to match the pitch of a higher note on an adjacent string. In these bends, fret each higher note with your first finger, and each lower note with either your third or fourth finger reinforced by your other fingers.

FIG. 2



## **DIAL TONE**

What He Used: At the time "Owner of a Lonely Heart" was recorded, Rabin's main axe was a heavily modified 1960s Fender Stratocaster that featured stacked humbucking pickups and Schaller tuners. He used the Ampeg VT-120 amplifier in conjunction with a Boss distortion pedal and an MXR Pitch Transposer. For the chorusing in the clean parts, Rabin used either an MXR or a Boss chorus pedal.

How to Get the Sound: For starters, you'll want to use a Fender Strat or similar guitar, loaded with humbucking pickups, plugged into a clean tube amp. For the clean parts, set your bass, middle, and treble to around 5, 8, and 7, and use a medium amount of chorus effect. If you want to convincingly recreate the solo, you'll need an electronic harmonizer that can produce two different harmony notes (octave below and 5th above), along with a fair amount of gain, probably around 6, from either your amp or a distortion pedal such as the Boss DS-1. (For more in-depth discussion on getting the sound, see this month's Dial Tone column on page 30.)

## Want more? Click on these cool links!

- Get more Yes guitar tabs at guitarinstructor.com
- Get the Yes Guitar Anthology guitar tab book from musicdispatch.com
- Get Trevor Rabin's instructional DVD from musicdispatch.com
- Download "Owner of a Lonely Heart" from iTunes
- · Learn more about the humbucker-equipped Fender HSS Strat at fender.com
  - Check out the Digitech HarmonyMan pitch transposer at digitech.com





# Owner of a Lonely Heart

Words and Music by Trevor Horn, Jon Anderson, Trevor Rabin and Chris Squire

from Yes - 90125 Guitar - Trevor Rabin Intro Moderately . = 125 B5/F# C5/G B5/F# C5/G A5 (Drums) Gtr. 1 (dist.) mf P.M. P.M. --w/ EQ filter B5/F# C5/G D5 B5 C5 D5 G5 A5 A5 Rhy. Fig. 1 End Rhy. Fig. 1 w/ chorus P.M. EQ filter off Gtr. 1: w/ Rhy. Fig. 1 B5 C5 D5 \*D7(no3rd) G5 A5 B5 C5 D5 G5 End Riff A Riff A Gtr. 2 (clean) mf\*\*w/ octaver & chorus P.M. -5 \*\*Octaver set for 1 octave above, \*Synth. cue Verse Gtr. 2: w/ Riff A (7 1/2 times) B5 C5 D5 G5 you al-ways live your life, nev - er think-ing of the fu 1. Move your-self, \*\*\*Chord symbols implied by bass, next 24 meas. C5 **B**5

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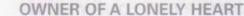


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