

**VIDEO GAME MUSIC ANALYSIS**  
**- For Educational Use Only -**

**The Place I'll Return**  
**To Someday**  
*from Final Fantasy IX*

Composed by Nobuo Uematsu  
Transcription/Analysis by Seventh Sam  
[www.seventhsam.com](http://www.seventhsam.com)

The image displays a musical score for three traversos, arranged in two systems. Each system consists of three staves labeled Traverso 1, Traverso 2, and Traverso 3. The music is written in 4/4 time and features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, as well as rests. Chord symbols and roman numerals are placed below the staves to indicate the harmonic structure.

**System 1:**

- Traverso 1:** Starts with a boxed 'A' and a Dm chord. The melody includes measures 1 through 4, with a final measure containing a whole rest.
- Traverso 2:** Starts with a whole rest in measure 1, followed by a melodic line.
- Traverso 3:** Starts with a whole rest in measure 1, followed by a melodic line.
- Chord Symbols:** Dm, G, Em7, Dm, Dm7, E7, Am.
- Roman Numerals:** i, IV, ii7, i, i7, V7/V, v.

**System 2:**

- Trv. 1:** Starts with a boxed 'A'' and a Dm chord. The melody includes measures 5 through 8, with a final measure containing a whole rest.
- Trv. 2:** Continues the melodic line from the previous system.
- Trv. 3:** Continues the melodic line from the previous system.
- Chord Symbols:** Dm, G, Em7, Dm, Dm, Em7, Am, Dm, C, D.
- Roman Numerals:** i, IV, ii7, i, i, ii7, v, i, bVII6, I.

**NOTE:** When determining the chord symbols/roman numerals, I'm going mainly by the harmonic outline suggested by the notes on the downbeats. As with all truly polyphonic/contrapuntal music, the harmony is more "incidental". The "chords" are formed by intersections that occur as the melodies meander their way from scale degree to scale degree. This is not to say that the composer didn't have these intersections *in mind* while composing, but rather to remind that in this kind of music the melodies take center stage.

**B**

Trv. 1 9  $Dm^7$  10  $Dm^7/F$   $C$  11  $Dm^7$  12  $Dm^7/F$   $E^5$   $D^5$

Trv. 2

Trv. 3

$i^7$   $i^{\flat 6}$   $\flat VII$   $i^7$   $i^{\flat 6}$   $ii$   $i$

**B'**

Trv. 1 13  $Dm^7$  14  $Dm^7/F$   $C$  15  $Dm^7$  16  $Dm^7/F$   $E^5$   $D$

Trv. 2

Trv. 3

$i^7$   $i^{\flat 6}$   $\flat VII$   $i^7$   $i^{\flat 6}$   $ii$   $I$