

# SPEED OF LIGHT

As recorded by Iron Maiden  
(From the 2015 Album THE BOOK OF SOULS)

Transcribed by Niko & Little Prince

Words and Music by Adrian Smith & Bruce Dickinson

**A** Intro

Fast ♩ = 175

Gtr I

T							
A	12	(12)10					
B		12 11 10 8 10 8	10 11 10 8 10 8	10 8	10 11 10 8 10 8	10 8	(10) (8) 5 3

sl.

Gtr II

T							
A	5	(5) 3					(24) (24)
B		5 4 3 1 3 1	3 4 3 1 3 1	3 1	3 4 3 1 3 1	3 1	(1) (1) sl. sl.

P.M.

P.M.

P.M.

P.M.

T							
A							
B	3 5 4 3 3 3	3 3	(3) 3 3 5 3 5	x 3 5	(5) 3 5 4 3 3 3	3 3	(3) 3 3 5 3 5 x 3 5

H

H

H

H

T							
A							
B							424242

11

P.M. P.M. P.M. P.M.

T  
A  
B

3 5 4 3 3 3 (3) 3 3 5 3 3 5 x 3 (5) 3 5 4 3 3 3 (3) 3 3 5 3 3 5 x 3 (3) 3 3 5 3 3 5 x 3 3

H H x 3 H H x 3

T  
A  
B

(5) (5) (5) 5

**B** Pre-Verse

Slightly Faster ♩ = 181

15

Gtrs I, P.M. P.M. P.M. P.M.

T  
A  
B

3 5 4 3 3 3 (3) 3 3 5 3 3 5 x 3 (5) 3 5 4 3 3 3 (3) 3 3 5 3 3 5 x 3

H H x 3 H H x 3

19

P.M. P.M. P.M. P.M.

T  
A  
B

3 5 4 3 3 3 (3) 3 3 5 3 3 5 x 3 (5) 3 5 4 3 3 3 (3) 3 3 5 3 3 5 x 0

H H x 3 H H x 3

**C** Verse

23

P.M. P.M. P.M. P.M.

T  
A  
B

0 2 2 2 0 2 0 (0) 0 2 2 2 0 2 0 (0) 0 2 2 2 0 2 1 (1) 1 3 3 3 1 3 5

p p p p

27

P.M. P.M. P.M. P.M.

T  
A  
B

3 5 4 3 3 3 (3) 3 3 5 3 3 5 x 3 (5) 3 5 4 3 3 3 (3) 3 3 5 3 3 5 x 0

H H x 3 H H x 3





**E** Chorus

55

T  
A  
B

T  
A  
B

(2nd time on D.S.S.) To Dbl. Coda

(2nd time) D.S. al Coda  
To Coda

59

T  
A  
B

T  
A  
B



63

T  
A  
B

T  
A  
B

67

Gtr III

T  
A  
B

14

Gtr I

T  
A  
B

1/2

Gtr II

T  
A  
B







95

Full

Full

sl. H P sl.

T																			
A	15	14 17	17	(17)	15	14	15 14 15	14	14	17 15	14 15 14	14	16	16	(16)	(16)	(16)	16	
B																			

T																			
A	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	2	(2)	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
B	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	0	(0)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2

99

A

A.H.

Full

D.S.S. al Dbl. Coda

E

Gtr I

f

Gtr II

f Gtrs I, II

T																			
A	16	14	16	15	14	12	14	12	11	14	12	14	11	12	14	11	12	14	14
B																			

T																			
A	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	2	(2)	2	(2)		10	
B	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	0	(0)	0	(0)			

T																			
A	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	2	(2)	2	(2)		5	(5)
B	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	0	(0)	0	(0)		5	(5)

**H** Out-Chorus

104

Gtr I 1/2

T  
A  
B

Gtr II

T  
A  
B

109

1/2

T  
A  
B

T  
A  
B

113

T  
A  
B

T  
A  
B

Detailed description: This system contains measures 113 through 116. It features two guitar staves (top and bottom) and two bass staves (middle and bottom). The guitar staves show complex chordal textures with many notes. The bass staves show chord diagrams for the T, A, and B strings. The notation includes various accidentals and ties.

117

T  
A  
B

T  
A  
B

Detailed description: This system contains measures 117 through 120. It features two guitar staves and two bass staves. In measure 119, there is a double bar line and a tempo change to 1/2. The bass staff in measure 119 has a slide mark 'sl.' and a '12' indicating a 12-fret slide. The guitar staves show melodic lines and chordal accompaniment.

I Outro

121

T  
A  
B

T  
A  
B

*rit.*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 121 through 124, labeled as the 'I Outro'. It features two guitar staves and two bass staves. The guitar staves show a melodic line with many accidentals. The bass staves show a rhythmic accompaniment with fingerings (e.g., 10, 12, 11, 10, 8, 10, 8). The tempo is marked as 'rit.' (ritardando). The notation includes various accidentals and ties.

124

T  
A  
B

(10)  
(8)

(10)  
(8)

(10)  
(8)

T  
A  
B

(3)  
(1)

(3)  
(1)

(3)  
(1)

slower ~ ♩ = 100

128

Gtrs I, II

T  
A  
B

(5)  
(3)

(5)  
(3)

(5)  
(3)

(5)  
(3)

(5)  
(3)