

## THE ARTIST'S DREAM

Berlioz's "Dream of a Witches' Sabbath," from *Symphonie fantastique*

Inspired by troubles in his own love life, Hector Berlioz's *Symphonie fantastique* tells the story of an artist who falls desperately in love with a woman he has just seen for the first time. Thoughts of her haunt the artist throughout the first three movements of this piece, until he falls into a dream-like state that takes him through a series of strange events in the final two movements.



Finally, after convincing himself that the woman of his dreams might not love him back, the artist imagines his own funeral in "Dream of a Witches' Sabbath," where he pictures a gathering of witches and monsters, dancing around his grave with the woman who broke his heart.





# MUSICAL DREAM JOURNAL

Berlioz's "Dream of a Witches' Sabbath," from *Symphonie fantastique*

**Write down the story of your most unforgettable dream. Then, as Berlioz did when he wrote this movement, think about what music would best serve as the soundtrack to your dream. Share your ideas at the bottom of the page!**

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**What songs or pieces of music would best help to tell the story or express the mood of your dream?**

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