

## Melody Composition Assignment

Compose an eight bar melody in 4/4 time. It can be acapella (unaccompanied), or laid over the chords provided below (the progression is loosely based on *Satin Doll's* chords). Either way, consider the guidelines below to help you organize your ideas.

### Process

- Use the key of C major (it might be easier to pluck it out on the piano that way)
- Chromatic notes (notes not in the key) are fine
- Start with a short motif (1-2 measures)
- Sequence the motif (descending is typical, but not required) throughout the remaining measures (like in *Autumn Leaves*)
- Sequence the motif for some of the measures, then add new material
- Sequence just a fraction of the motif (like in *Satin Doll* or *You Are Too Beautiful*)

### Phrasing

- Some 8-bar melodies are in two equal (4-bar) units/phrases, with a longer note (or rest) after each 4-bar phrase (like *You Are Too Beautiful*)
- Other 8-bar melodies don't hit a stopping point until the 8th bar (like *Satin Doll* or *Autumn Leaves*)
- Look at other examples, analyze how their melodies are constructed and imitate that process

### Presentation

- If you are able to notate the melody, I can perform it in class
- You are welcome to perform it yourself
- If you wish just to record the melody and transfer it onto an mp3/iPod/smart phone device, we can listen to it over the sound system
- Whatever you do, make it simple

## MELODY

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if you want to write something acapella, just cross out the chords and use the staff as if it were blank