Commentary

Stave-Fire has my favorite section within all of *Wildwood*. It's the middle section, and it feels really fucking good to play.

The song is pretty straight forward and builds to the middle sections. The intro, verse, and chorus all have a driving 8th note concept on the bass drum. I wanted to keep things simple. To break up the sections, I had used a longer four bar phrase on the verse, and then a one bar that gets relentless in the chorus. I broke the note rate from consistent 8th notes to 16ths on the fill to the last chorus. Choosing this helped to foreshadow the change of momentum that was coming.

Once we get to the middle section, the time changes to 7/8, but I feel the time in 7/4 in particular spots. The way the acoustic guitars are layered creates a great sense of building throughout the section. One way that I wanted to play around with building on the rhythmic end was to play the first half in 7/4. Technically, it's a two bar phrase in 7/8 but felt as 7/4. In the final two measures before the guitar's tremolo picking kicks in I play on the 7/8 feel. At that point, the guitars are all in and at their height, I play one bar of 7/4 (which is two bars of 7/8) and then two bars of 7/8 (making 4 bars total). I felt this approach really suited the way the guitar melody was built and how the section builds as a whole. The guitar layers were the main priority of the section. There was no way in hell I wanted to get in the way. The time change/interruptions served enough to really show the outline and landscape that was being created.

I took a passage from the transcription and added the guitar line to show how some of this work in regards to time interpretation and accents (*figure 7.1*).
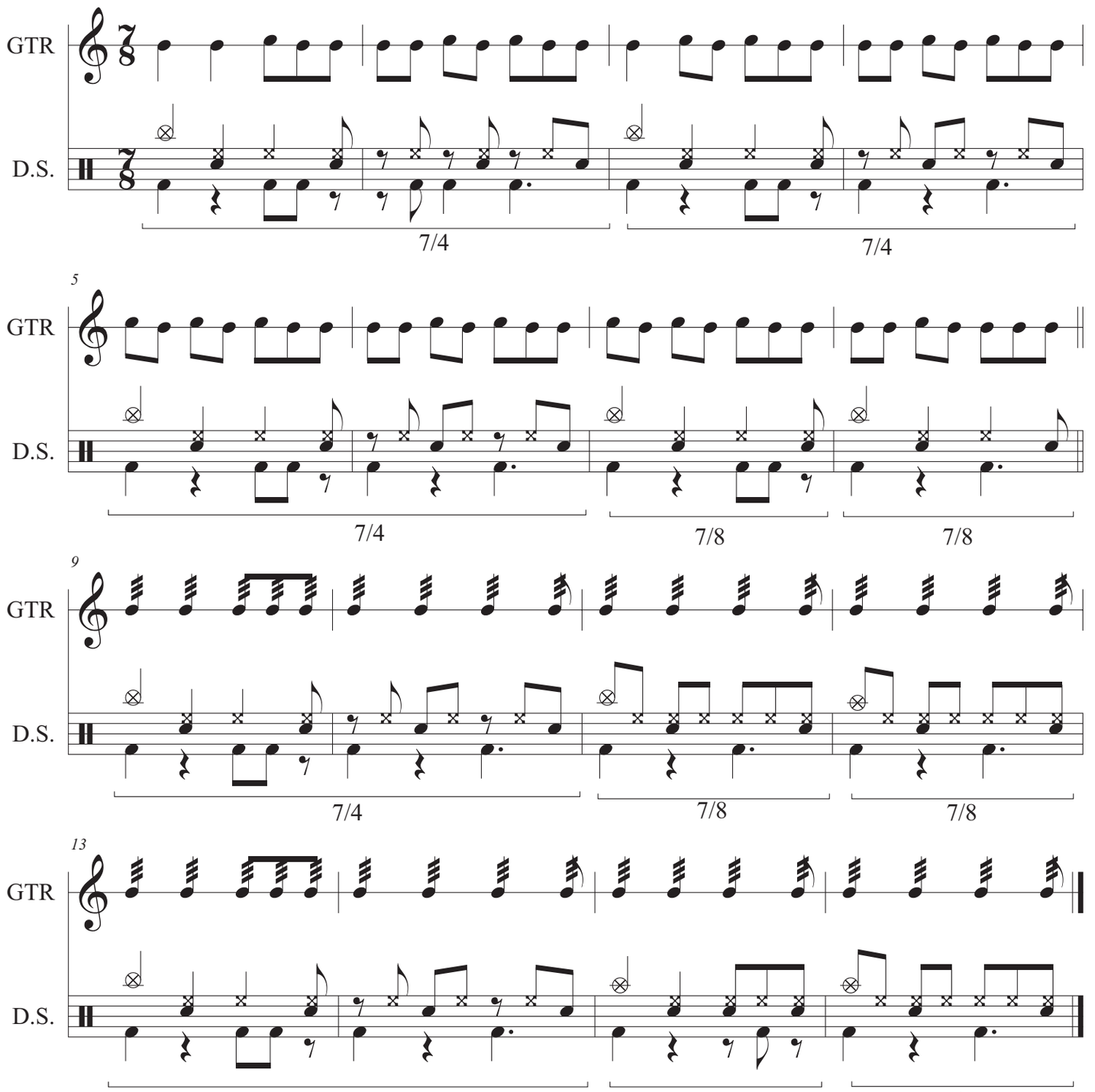
figure 7.1