

# Song of the Weekend

By Lee Jackson

From the Lee Jackson Audio Community Discussion Group

(<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ljackaudiodiscgroup>)

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This week's "Song of the Weekend" is Goin' Down the Fast Way, from the Apogee Software cult classic, "Rise of the Triad."

Goin' Down the Fast Way got its name from an id Software answering machine message recorded in June of 1992. It starts with Tom Hall interviewing a "tall," deep voiced man at a baseball game, then winds up with him saying he's going down to interview id Software's developers, to which the tall man says, "No, you're goin' down the fast way." He then proceeds to shove Tom down the stairs. (I'll put up a link in a separate post.)

The song itself has its own odd history. I wrote it at home, almost immediately after my wife and I had had a huge argument. Somehow, the energy from the argument got channeled into my writing. I seem to remember laying down the driving bass line first, followed by the drums. Eventually, I wound up with strings playing syncopated chords in the intro, going higher and higher, until the top strings come in with a swirling line. A one bar break follows, then the square wave and sine wave synths panned left and right take over for the rest of the song.

The song wound up being used as the level one song in the shareware version of Rise of the Triad. However, for the registered version, the team decided to use a different song. Goin' Down the Fast Way was relegated to a different level. Nevertheless, it is one of the more popular songs associated with the game, based on what I've seen on the web. I thank you all for that.

With that, allow me to post the following link. I hope you'll enjoy it!

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xX\\_Kb0cDN98](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xX_Kb0cDN98)