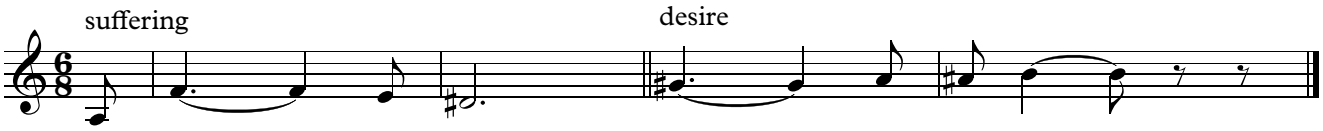
Tristan Chord (from Wagner's *Tristan und Isolde*)

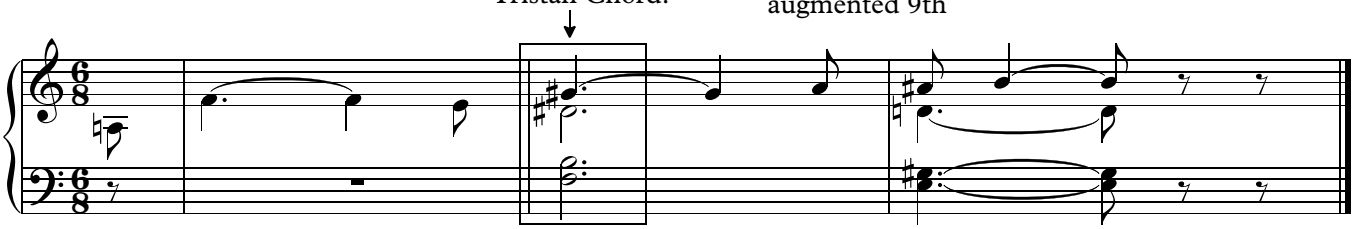
Cheat Sheet

Leitmotif: A musical fragment (almost always in the orchestra) that represents (symbolizes) something in the story. This could be a character, emotion, or anything, really...



If you put suffering and desire together, they create the Tristan Chord!

It is made up of (from the bass) an augmented 4th, augmented 6th, and augmented 9th



Theorists think of this as a number of different chords. It sounds half-diminished, but is spelled wrong. If you ignore the G♯, it is a FR+6. Some also say that it's a V/V with a ♭5.