Subject: Loud Background Music But Soft Voice
Posted by Jorel on Wed, 02 Feb 2011 17:40:01 GMT
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I have this problem when I'm watching at night. The music of the movies I'm watching is louder than the voice so I constantly turn the volume down when the music comes up. This is especially true with horror or suspense movies.

Subject: "Phantom Center" mode
Posted by Wayne Parham on Wed, 02 Feb 2011 20:04:36 GMT
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That's a pretty common symptom when using the 5 channel soundtrack but listening only to the left and right fronts. Sometimes the dialog is heavily panned to the center with little going to the left and right.

Look and see if your A/V processor (or DVD/BluRay player) has a settings mode where you can tell it you have no center speaker. It will then send the center track out to the left and right speakers. This is sometimes called "phantom center" mode.

Subject: Re: Loud Background Music But Soft Voice
Posted by Adveser on Wed, 02 Feb 2011 22:15:56 GMT
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Wayne is right.

If this is a cable box problem, go into the settings and tell the cable box you are using stereo. You might be watching something that is in 5.1 and it is not downmixing the signal.

Are you using the TV speakers? Or is it a receiver/amp connected to the cable box/disc player?

Subject: Re: Loud Background Music But Soft Voice
Posted by GoodVibrations on Thu, 03 Feb 2011 19:09:17 GMT
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Thanks for the explanation Wayne and Adveser. I had that happen a few times also and hand no idea what could be causing the problem. We have had occasional problems with our speakers, so this sounds like a good check to make in the future.

Subject: Re: Loud Background Music But Soft Voice
Posted by Jorel on Fri, 04 Feb 2011 07:28:03 GMT
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Good to know that I can fix this problem. I will try to look for the setup of my player if I can remove the center speaker.

How will I know that I have the correct setup? My speaker can produce sound like a train coming from the left of the speaker then leaving on the right.

Subject: Re: Loud Background Music But Soft Voice
Posted by Wayne Parham on Fri, 04 Feb 2011 15:32:15 GMT
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It's right when it can do that and when you can hear dialog at a normal level.

Subject: Re: Loud Background Music But Soft Voice
Posted by Adveser on Fri, 04 Feb 2011 18:47:52 GMT
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Jorel wrote on Thu, 03 February 2011 23:28Good to know that I can fix this problem. I will try to look for the setup of my player if I can remove the center speaker.

How will I know that I have the correct setup? My speaker can produce sound like a train coming from the left of the speaker then leaving on the right.

Stick your copy of Highlander or any of the Star Wars DVDs in the player and select the THX logo.