The Lake of Sorrows

Tales from the Darklands - Part 2

For Concert Band, Grade 1.5
by Randall D. Standridge (ASCAP)

Instrumentation

1 - Full Score
8 - Flute
2 - Oboe
5 - Bb Clarinet
5 - Bb Clarinet (F Horn Double)
2 - Bb Bass Clarinet
8 - Eb Alto Saxophone
2 - Bb Tenor Saxophone
2 - Eb Baritone Saxophone

4 - Bb Trumpet 1
4 - Bb Trumpet 2
6 - F Horn
8 - Tromb./Euph. B.C./Bassoon
2 - Euphonium T.C.
4 - Tuba

2 - Mallets 1: Bells
2 - Mallets 2: Chimes/Marimba
2 - Timpani
3 - Percussion 1&2: Finger Cymbals/Wind Chimes/Crash Cymbals, Bass Drum
2 - Percussion 3: Sleigh Bells/Tam-Tam/Suspended Cymbal
1 - Sound FX (optional), sound effect is available for download from website

2 - Chromatic Exercise Sheets (copyable)

RS
Randall Standridge Music

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About *Tales from the Darklands*

A few years back, I created a narrative work for concert band entitled *The Darklands Symphony*, which told the tale of several characters and places that I have created over the years in my imagination through stories, art, and, finally, music. All of the pieces were at the Grade 2-2.5 level, and were very well received. I thought I was done with the Darklands.

I was wrong.

New stories and new figures have populated that world and I felt drawn to the subject matter again. Thus, we are beginning a whole new volume, titled *Tales from the Darklands*. Unlike the Symphony, the "Tales" series will not be one long story but, rather, small individual tales that give more back story and depth to the Darklands Universe. Also, the entire "Tales" series will be written at the Grade 1-1.5 level, opening up the Darklands to a whole new level of players. Each "Tales" piece will be accompanied by supplemental material online, which may be found at my website (beginning May 2021)

The Lake of Sorrows

Once, there was a goddess who roamed the forests that border the Darklands. One day, a mortal man wandered into her domain, and she fell in love with him on sight. For a time, they lived happily. As the years passed, however, she remained beautiful and young, but he aged, as all mortals do. Upon his death, the goddess was so overcome with grief that her tears formed a lake. To this day, all who foolishly wander too close to the Lake of Sorrows are drawn into its dark waters...but they do not die. They stand on the lake bed, looking upwards and weeping, as the eternal storms thunder and roil overhead.

Educational goals of the work:

-Expressive and noticeable dynamics
-Tone production and proper note length
-Navigating Slight Tempo Changes
-Teaching Chromaticism at a basic level and with limited range. Copyable Chromatic exercise sheets have been included with this work and are keyed for all instruments

Rehearsal suggestions

-The tempo of this work is critical to its character. When planning your preparation, make sure to allow time for proper technical development to achieve the written tempos, lest the work come off as "boring."
-The percussion should be on the slightly louder side of the balance spectrum. Please do not "hide" them. However, they should not cover the ensemble.
-The sound FX are optional and may be downloaded from my website.
-The clarinets may be assigned the regular part OR the optional French Horn double (or you may split your section as needed).
-Please use the COPYABLE chromatic exercise sheets to help work with your performers with their development of this skill.
-Some supplemental videos and the entire short story about "The Lake of Sorrows" will be available on my website by May 2021.

About the Composer

Randall Standridge (b.1976) received his Bachelor's of Music Education from Arkansas State University. During this time, he studied composition with Dr. Tom O'Connor, before returning to Arkansas State University to earn his Master's in Music Composition, studying with Dr. Tom O'Connor and Dr. Tim Crist. In 2001, he began his tenure as Director of Bands at Harrisburg High School in Harrisburg, Arkansas. He left this post in 2013 to pursue a career as a full-time composer and marching arts designer.

Mr. Standridge is currently published by Grand Mesa Music, Alfred Music, FJH Music, Wingert-Jones Music, Band Works Publications, Twin Towers Music, and Northeastern Music Publications. Mr. Standridge's music is performed internationally. He has had numerous works selected to the J.W. Pepper's editor's choice. His compositions *Snake Charmer, Gently Blows the Summer Wind,* and *Angelic Celebrations* have been included in the "**Teaching Music Through Performance in Band**" series. He has had numerous works performed at the prestigious Midwest Clinic in Chicago, Illinois. His work *Art(isms)* was premiered by the Arkansas State University Wind Ensemble at the 2010 CBDNA conference in Las Cruces, New Mexico, and his work ***Stonewall:***

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Concert work: The Lake of Sorrows (RSM C017)

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Tales from the Darklands - Chapter 2

Score

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