

# A Christmas Carol

For Concert Band and Narrator, Grade 2.5  
By Randall D. Standridge (ASCAP)

## Instrumentation

1 - Full Score  
1 - Narrator  
8 - Flute  
2 - Oboe  
2 - Bassoon  
5 - Bb Clarinet 1  
5 - Bb Clarinet 2  
2 - Bb Bass Clarinet  
6 - Eb Alto Saxophone  
2 - Bb Tenor Saxophone  
2 - Eb Baritone Saxophone  
4 - Bb Trumpet 1  
4 - Bb Trumpet 2  
4 - F Horn  
3 - Trombone 1  
3 - Trombone 2  
4 - Euphonium B.C.  
2 - Euphonium T.C.  
4 - Tuba  
2 - Timpani  
2 - Percussion 1: Bells/Chains/Tambourine  
2 - Percussion 2: Chimes/Bells  
2 - Percussion 3: Vibraphone/Chains/Tam-Tam  
2 - Percussion 4: Sleigh Bells/Snare Drum/Wind Chimes/Tam-Tam  
2 - Percussion 5: Bass Drum/Triangle  
2 - Percussion 6: Suspended Cymbals/Tam-Tam/Crash Cymbal/  
Ride Cymbal/2 Woodblocks

**Full Set - \$65.00**

**Extra Conductor Score - \$12.00**

**Extra Part - \$4.00**



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## GRADE .5 - 1.5

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Spring (1)  
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Groovy-8 (1)  
The Dragon Lord (1.5)  
The Lake of Sorrows (1.5)  
Santa the Barbarian (1.5)  
A Festival of Carols (1.5)  
Starfire Fanfare (1.5)  
Fanfare for the 16th Empire (1.5)  
Circuit Breaker (1.5)

## GRADE 2 - 2.5

Dominion (2)  
Creer (2)  
Spero (2)  
Hillside March (2)  
Earthdawn (2.5)  
Shadow Cove March (2.5)

## GRADE 3 - 3.5

Affirmation (3)  
...music speaks (3)  
On an Olde English Carol (3)  
Gallowglass (3)  
Precious Lord, Take My Hand (3.5)

## GRADE 4

Utopia (4)  
Providence (4)  
Havana Nights (4)  
Vanishing Point (4)  
Deus Ex Machina (4.5)  
The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse  
(4.5)

## GRADE 5

Stonewall: 1969 (5)  
unBroken (5)

## PERCUSSION ENSEMBLES

Fur Elise (Grade 2)  
Taiko (Grade 3)  
3x3 (Grade 3)

# A Christmas Carol

for Narrator and Concert Band

By Randall D. Standridge

## Program Notes

Charles Dickens first published his novella *A Christmas Carol* in 1843. Since then, it has become one of the most well known Christmas tales, thanks in large part to its combination of festive cheer, ghostly chills, and philosophical elements. It has become so popular that even the name of its main character, Scrooge, has become a word unto itself in the English lexicon.

This new work, *A Christmas Carol*, attempts to illustrate this timeless tale through narration and hints of familiar holiday tunes. It is presented in the form of an attacca suite with five distinct movements (or "scenes") that mirror the five chapters of Dickens's novella. The piece begins on Christmas Eve with Scrooge being visited by the ghost of his business partner who warns him he will be doomed to a terrible fate if he does not change, and that he will be visited by three spirits ("I. Marley's Ghost"). The piece continues as Scrooge is shown bittersweet scenes from days gone by ("II. The Ghost of Christmas Past"), scenes of holiday merriment ("III. The Ghost of Christmas Present"), and dark visions of a possible future ("IV. The Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come"). The piece ends with Scrooge awakening a changed man, his heart full of festive cheer ("V. Christmas Morning").

I hope you and your loved ones enjoy this heartwarming and ghostly tale, and I wish you all happy holidays.

Peace Love and Music

## Special Notes:

- The "ghostly moaning" in movement one should be performed as if tormented and in great pain. Please avoid a campier approach. The effect should be eerie and unsettling...not funny.
- The bass drum note that signals the cellar door opening should be shockingly loud. Don't hold back. Scare them.
- The tempo of each movement is critical to its dramatic effect. Please stick as closely as possible to the suggested tempi.
- The narration cues may be read live or you may download them from our website at [randallstandridge.com](http://randallstandridge.com).

## About the Composer



Randall Standridge (b.1976) received his Bachelor 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. From 2001 to 2013, he served as the Director of Bands at Harrisburg High School in Harrisburg, Arkansas.

Mr. Standridge is currently published by Grand Mesa Music, Alfred Music, FJH Music, Wingert-Jones Music, BandWorks Publications, Twin Towers Music, and Northeastern Music Publications. Mr. Standridge has had several of his pieces performed internationally, and has had numerous works selected to the J.W. Pepper's Editor's Choice and Bandworld Top 100 lists. His compositions *Snake Charmer*, *Gently Blows the Summer Wind*, and *Angelic Celebrations* also published are included in *Teaching Music through Performance in Band* series. He has had several works performed at the Midwest Music Clinic in Chicago, IL. His work *Art(isms)* was premiered by the Arkansas State University Wind Ensemble at the 2010 CBDNA conference in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Mr. Standridge is also a contributing composer for Alfred Music's *Sound Innovations: Ensemble Development* series. His music is gaining recognition as worthwhile literature for concert festivals and performances across the United States and internationally.

In addition to his career as a composer, Mr. Standridge is the Marching Band Editor for Grand Mesa Music Publishers. He is in demand as a conductor, clinician, drill designer, composer, and music arranger for the marching arts. He is also a freelance artist, photographer, and writer. He lives in Jonesboro, AR with his family. For more information about Mr. Standridge, visit his website at: [www.randallstandridge.com](http://www.randallstandridge.com)



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**Concert work: A Christmas Carol (Standard edition, RSM C048)**

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Director

# A Christmas Carol

Randall D. Standridge (ASCAP)  
based on the story by Charles Dickens

## Mvt. I: Marley's Ghost

Mysterious ♩ = 60

Play 3 times

1. Once upon a time, on Christmas Eve, Ebenezer Scrooge sat alone in his room.
2. He sat in front of the fire, hating Christmas, hating his fellow man, and saying "Bah-Humbug" to everything.
3. When suddenly, his chamber bell began to ring all by itself!

The score is written for a full orchestra and includes a Narrator part. It is divided into four measures (1, 2, 3, 4) and features various instruments including woodwinds, brass, strings, and percussion. Dynamics range from p (piano) to mf (mezzo-forte). The score includes performance instructions such as "Div." (divisi), "Play 3rd time only", "cresc. (last time)", and "pp" (pianissimo). The percussion section includes Bells, Chimes, Vibraphone, Sleigh Bells, Bass Drum, Triangle, and Suspended Cymbal. The woodwind section includes Flute/Picc., Oboe, Bassoon, B♭ Clarinet 1, B♭ Clarinet 2, E♭ Alto Saxophone, B♭ Tenor Saxophone, and E♭ Baritone Saxophone. The brass section includes B♭ Trumpet 1, B♭ Trumpet 2, Horn in F, Trombone 1-2, Euphonium, and Tuba. The string section includes Timpani.

**Nar.** The basement door boomed as it opened on its own! And he heard the sounds of ghostly moans and chains dragging up his stairs. Before him appeared the ghost of Jacob Marley, dead now seven years!

**Fl.** Ghostly Moans, and "Ebenezer Scrooge" gradually getting louder

**Ob.** Ghostly Moans, and "Ebenezer Scrooge" gradually getting louder

**Bsn.** Ghostly Moans, and "Ebenezer Scrooge" gradually getting louder

**B♭ Cl. 1** Ghostly Moans, and "Ebenezer Scrooge" gradually getting louder

**B♭ Cl. 2** Ghostly Moans, and "Ebenezer Scrooge" gradually getting louder

**B. Cl.** Ghostly Moans, and "Ebenezer Scrooge" gradually getting louder

**A. Sx.** Ghostly Moans, and "Ebenezer Scrooge" gradually getting louder

**T. Sx.** Ghostly Moans, and "Ebenezer Scrooge" gradually getting louder

**B. Sx.** Ghostly Moans, and "Ebenezer Scrooge" gradually getting louder

**B♭ Tpt. 1** Ghostly Moans, and "Ebenezer Scrooge" gradually getting louder

**B♭ Tpt. 2** Ghostly Moans, and "Ebenezer Scrooge" gradually getting louder

**Hn.** Ghostly Moans, and "Ebenezer Scrooge" gradually getting louder

**Tbn. 1-2** Trombones Glissandi up and down at varying tempi, creating a nightmarish effect. Glissandi continue

**Euph.** Ghostly Moans, and "Ebenezer Scrooge" gradually getting louder

**Tuba** Ghostly Moans, and "Ebenezer Scrooge" gradually getting louder

**Timp.**

**Perc. 1** Chains (rattle) *fp*

**Perc. 2**

**Perc. 3** Chains (rattle)

**Perc. 4** Chains (rattle)

**Perc. 5** (shockingly loud) *ff*

**Perc. 6** Tam-Tam *p*

5 6 *p* 7

**8** With Terror! ♩=124

This musical score is for the eighth measure of a piece titled 'A Christmas Carol'. The tempo is marked 'With Terror!' at 124 beats per minute. The score is written for a large ensemble, including woodwinds, brass, and percussion. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into measures 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13. Dynamics range from *f* (forte) to *p* (piano). The percussion section includes Snare Drum, Suspended Cymbal, and three other percussion instruments. The woodwind section includes Flute, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinets (B-flat, B-flat, B-flat), Saxophones (Alto, Tenor, Baritone), Trumpets (B-flat), Horns, and Trombones (1-2). The brass section includes Euphonium and Tuba. The string section is represented by Nar. (Narrator). The score features a variety of rhythmic patterns, including eighth and sixteenth notes, and rests. The dynamics change significantly throughout the measure, with a crescendo leading to a fortissimo peak in measure 10, followed by a decrescendo to a piano dynamic in measure 11, and a final fortissimo peak in measure 13.

Nar.

Fl. *cresc.*

Ob. *cresc.*

Bsn. *cresc.* *f*

B♭ Cl. 1 *cresc.*

B♭ Cl. 2 *cresc.*

B. Cl. *cresc.* *f*

A. Sx. *cresc.*

T. Sx. *cresc.* *f*

B. Sx. *cresc.* *f*

B♭ Tpt. 1 *p* *f*

B♭ Tpt. 2 *p* *f*

Hn. *cresc.*

Tbn. 1-2 *cresc.* *f*

Euph. *cresc.* *f*

Tuba *cresc.* *f*

Timp. *p* *f*

Perc. 1 *f*

Perc. 2 *f*

Perc. 3 *f*

Perc. 4 *cresc.* *mf* *f*

Perc. 5 *mf* *f*

Perc. 6 *mf* *f* Crash Cymbals

14 15 16 17 18 19

# Mysterious $\text{♩} = 60$

"You will be visited by Three spirits.  
Heed their words, change your ways, or my fate will be yours!"

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with 20 staves. The instruments are: Nar., Fl., Ob., Bsn., B♭ Cl. 1, B♭ Cl. 2, B. Cl., A. Sx., T. Sx., B. Sx., B♭ Tpt. 1, B♭ Tpt. 2, Hn., Tbn. 1-2, Euph., Tuba, Timp., Perc. 1, Perc. 2, Perc. 3, Perc. 4, Perc. 5, and Perc. 6. The score is in 3/4 time and features a key signature of three flats. It includes various musical notations such as dynamics (f, fp, mf, p), articulation (accents, slurs), and performance instructions like 'Div.' and '(Ch.)'. The score is divided into measures 20 through 25.

# Mvt. II: The Ghost of Christmas Past

## Nostalgia $\text{♩} = 120$

Nar.  $\text{♩} = 120$   
The ghost of Christmas Past came first, showing Scrooge scenes of his childhood, young love won...and lost.

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B. Cl.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn. 1-2

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Perc. 1 *mf*  
Play 2nd Time Only

Perc. 2 *mf*

Perc. 3 *mf*

Perc. 4 Wind Chimes *p*

Perc. 5 Triangle *mp*

Perc. 6 Sus. Cym. Play 2nd Time Only *p*

30

1.

Nar.

Fl. *Play 2nd Time Only* *Play 1st Time* *mf*

Ob. *Play 2nd Time Only* *mf*

Bsn. *mp* *Play 2nd Time Only*

B. Cl. 1 *mp* *Play 2nd Time Only*

B. Cl. 2 *mp* *Play 2nd Time Only*

B. Cl. *mp* *Play 2nd Time Only*

A. Sx. *mp* *Play 2nd Time Only*

T. Sx. *mp* *Play 2nd Time Only*

B. Sx. *mp* *Play 2nd Time Only*

B. Tpt. 1

B. Tpt. 2

Hn. *mp* *Play 2nd Time Only*

Tbn. 1-2

Euph. *mp* *B♭ Bass Clarinet*

Tuba

Timp.

Perc. 1 *mf*

Perc. 2 *mf*

Perc. 3 *mf*

Perc. 4 *p* *Sleigh Bells*

Perc. 5 *mp*

Perc. 6 *mf* *Ride Cym. (stick)* *Sus. Cym.* *p*

30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37

2

Nar.

Fl. *mf* Play 2nd Time Only

Ob. *mf* Play 2nd Time Only

Bsn. *mf* *mp* Play 2nd Time Only

B. Cl. 1 *mf* Play 2nd Time Only

B. Cl. 2 *mf* Play 2nd Time Only

B. Cl. *mf* *mp* Play 2nd Time Only

A. Sx. *mf* Play 2nd Time Only

T. Sx. *mf* *mp*

B. Sx. *mf* *mp*

B. Tpt. 1 *mf*

B. Tpt. 2 *mf*

Hn. *mf* Play 2nd Time Only

Tbn. 1-2 *mp* Play 2nd Time Only

Euph. *mp* Play 2nd Time Only

Tuba *mp*

Timp.

Perc. 1 *mf*

Perc. 2

Perc. 3 *mf*

Perc. 4

Perc. 5 *mf* *f* *p*

Perc. 6 *p* Sus. Cym.

38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45

This musical score is for a Christmas Carol, spanning measures 46 to 51. It features a variety of instruments and percussion. The woodwinds include Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Clarinet in Bb (B. Cl. 1 & 2), Clarinet in C (C. Cl.), Saxophone Alto (A. Sx.), Saxophone Tenor (T. Sx.), and Saxophone Baritone (B. Sx.). The brass section consists of Trumpets in Bb (B. Tpt. 1 & 2), Horns (Hn.), Trombones in Bb (Tbn. 1-2), Euphonium (Euph.), and Tuba. The percussion section includes Timpani (Timp.), six different Percussion parts (Perc. 1-6), and Crash Cymbals. The score is divided into two systems, with the first system covering measures 46-48 and the second system covering measures 49-51. Dynamics range from *mf* (mezzo-forte) to *f* (forte). A first ending bracket is present at the top of the score, and a second ending bracket is present at the bottom. A *p* (piano) dynamic is marked at the start of measure 49, and a *f* (forte) dynamic is marked at the start of measure 50. Specific percussion instructions include 'Sus. Cym.' (Suspended Cymbal) and 'Crash Cymbals'.

46

47

48

49

50

51

*rit.*

**Wistful** ♩=100  
*rit.*

The Ghost of Christmas present was a giant of a man, sitting amongst a Christmas bounty and bidding Scrooge to join him for scenes of Christmas merriment.

Nar.

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

B♭ Cl. 1

B♭ Cl. 2

B. Cl.

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

B. Sx.

B♭ Tpt. 1

B♭ Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn. 1-2

Euph.

Tuba

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

Perc. 5

Perc. 6

# Mvt. III: The Ghost of Christmas Present

## Festive ♩=120

Nar. *"Come in! Come in and know me better, man!"*

Fl. *mf*

Ob. *mf*

Bsn. *p*

B. Cl. 1 *mf*

B. Cl. 2 *mf*

B. Cl.

A. Sx. *p*

T. Sx. *p*

B. Sx.

B. Tpt. 1

B. Tpt. 2

Hn. *p*

Tbn. 1-2 *p*

Euph. *p*

Tuba

Timp. *mp*

Perc. 1 *mp*  
Tambourine

Perc. 2 *mp*  
Play 2nd Time Only  
Bells

Perc. 3 *mp*  
Tom Drum (Sn w/snares off)

Perc. 4 *mp*  
Play 2nd Time Only  
Triangle

Perc. 5 *mp*

Perc. 6



