

Dead Man's March

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

Instrumentation

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 - Full Score | 4 - Bb Trumpet 1 |
| 8 - Flute | 4 - Bb Trumpet 2 |
| 2 - Oboe | 6 - F Horn |
| 5 - Bb Clarinet 1 | 6 - Trombone/Euphonium/Bassoon |
| 5 - Bb Clarinet 2 | 2 - Euphonium T. C. |
| 2 - Bb Clarinet (Horn Double) | 4 - Tuba |
| 2 - Bb Bass Clarinet | |
| 8 - Eb Alto Saxophone | |
| 2 - Bb Tenor Saxophone | |
| 2 - Eb Baritone Saxophone | |
-
- | |
|--|
| 2 - Bells/Xylophone |
| 2 - Chimes |
| 2 - Timpani |
| 2 - Percussion 1&2A: P1:Snare Drum, P2:Bass Drum |
| 2 - Percussion 1&2B: P1:Snare Drum, P2:Bass Drum |
| 2 - Percussion 3: Crash Cymbal/Suspended Cymbal |
| 2 - Percussion 4: Tambourine/Triangle |

Full Set - \$60.00

Extra Conductor Score - \$12.00

Extra Part - \$4.00



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Dead Man's March

By Randall D. Standridge

Program Notes

Let's be honest—marches don't always have the most thrilling reputation. Too often, they fall into the "peppy parade" category: bright, cheerful, and more about bouncing than battling. And while there's nothing wrong with a good, happy march, sometimes... I want ghosts. I want fog. I want pirates.

Dead Man's March is my attempt to bring a bit of cinematic mystery to the world of young band marches. Inspired by my love of pirate films, pop culture, and dramatic storytelling, this piece sets sail into supernatural waters—through the haunted reaches of Shadow Cove, a setting that also connects loosely to my other work, *Shadow Cove March* and *Sirens*.

The sound world here owes a debt to the iconic pirate scores of composers like **Klaus Badelt**, **Hans Zimmer**, and **Geoff Zanelli**, who brought swashbuckling swagger and supernatural suspense to life in the *Pirates of the Caribbean* films. That blend of bold themes, eerie textures, and a relentless sense of motion was a huge influence as I crafted this ghostly voyage for young players.

The piece begins with a solitary snare drum—like the echo of an old naval cadence, long forgotten. One by one, ghostly voices join in as the spectral crew of the *Revenant* rises from the deep. They march silently across the shoreline, cursed to patrol the coast until the end of days (*or at least until the end of class*).

Set in a brooding minor mode, *Dead Man's March* still follows traditional march form, giving melodic moments to every section. But don't expect sunshine and swing—this march is more *mystery and menace*. With active percussion, dark harmonies, and a few hair-raising twists, the piece leans into that spooky, swashbuckling energy that young players (and let's be honest, most adults) love.

As dawn begins to break, the music fades. The pirates vanish into the mist. The snare drum echoes once more... and then, silence. (Until the applause, of course.)

Whether you're programming this for a Halloween concert, a festival, or any event that needs a bit of haunted high-seas flair, I hope your band enjoys bringing these ghostly buccaneers to life.

So hoist the sails, beware the cursed fog, and above all...
'Ware the night, the lot of ya!

There be pirates near!

ARRRGH!

Peace, Love, and Music – Randy Standy

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."
- Dynamics should be noticeable and taken to extremes.
- Percussion should be on the higher end of dynamic balance. Do not hide them.
- This piece makes use of several repeats. For younger performers, I always find it helpful to have them physically touch their page to follow the "map" of the piece.
- The snare drum solo at the beginning should sound lonely. It is recommended that the player play on the part of the drumhead between the center and rim to thin out the sound and gradually bring it to center as more instruments enter.

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's music is performed internationally. He has had numerous works selected for 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. The Arkansas State University Wind Ensemble premiered his work *Art(isms)* at the 2010 CBDNA conference in Las Cruces, New Mexico, and his work *Stonewall: 1969* was premiered at the National LGBA conference in 2019. His *Symphony no.1: A Ghost Story* was premiered in 2023. In addition, Mr. Standridge's "unBroken Project," a musical initiative about mental health, has received widespread acclaim for its musical content and for providing opportunities to normalize discussions about mental health for music students and audiences.

In addition to his career as a composer, Mr. Standridge is the owner and editor of Randall Standridge Music, LLC and Grand Mesa Marching. He is in demand as an arranger/designer for the marching arts. He lives in Jonesboro, Arkansas, with his husband, Steven, and their very, very spoiled pets. For more information about Mr. Standridge, visit his website at: www.randallstandridge.com



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Concert work: Dead Man's March (Standard edition, RSM C099)

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Director

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Score
Grade 1.5
Duration: 2:30

DEAD MAN'S MARCH

Randall D. Standridge
(ASCAP)

Marching ♩=124

The score is for a marching band piece in 4/4 time with a tempo of 124 beats per minute. It features the following parts:

- Flute**: Rests throughout.
- Oboe**: Rests throughout.
- B♭ Clarinet 1-2**: Rests throughout.
- B♭ Clarinet (Horn Double)**: Rests throughout.
- E♭ Alto Saxophone**: Rests throughout.
- B♭ Tenor Saxophone**: Rests throughout.
- B♭ Trumpet 1**: Rests throughout.
- B♭ Trumpet 2**: Rests throughout.
- Horn in F**: Rests throughout.
- Trombone/Euphonium/Bassoon**: Plays a melody starting on the 2nd time only, marked *mf*.
- Low Reeds Tuba**: Plays a melody starting on the 2nd time only, marked *mf*.
- Bells/Xylophone**: Rests throughout.
- Chimes**: Plays a melody starting on the 2nd time only, marked *mf*.
- Timpani (3)**: Plays a melody starting on the 2nd time only, marked *mf*. Tune: G, A♭, C, E (med. hard mallets).
- Percussion 1 & 2 A**: P1: Snare Drum, P2: Bass Drum. Plays a rhythmic pattern starting on the 2nd time only, marked *mf*. BD (2nd time only).
- Percussion 1 & 2 B**: P1: Snare Drum, P2: Bass Drum. Plays a rhythmic pattern starting on the 2nd time only, marked *mf*. BD (2nd time only).
- Percussion 3**: Crash Cymbals/Suspended Cymbal. Rests throughout.
- Percussion 4**: Tambourine/Triangle. Rests throughout.

1

2

3

4

DEAD MAN'S MARCH - SCORE

5 

2nd time only

Fl. *mf*

Ob. *mf*

Cl. 1-2 *mf*

Cl. (HD) *mf* 2nd time only Play Both Times

A. Sx. *mf* 2nd time only Play Both Times

T. Sx.

Tpt. 1 *mf*

Tpt. 2 *mf*

Hn. *mf* 2nd time only Play Both Times

Trb./Euph.

L.R. Tuba

Bls./Xyl. *mf* 2nd time only Bells + Xylo. (hard mallets)

Ch.

Timp.

Perc.1/2 A *mf*

Perc.1/2 B *mf*

Perc.3 *mf* 2nd time only Crash Cymbals

Perc.4 *mf* Tambourine

5 6 7 8 9 10

DEAD MAN'S MARCH - SCORE

This musical score page contains measures 11 through 16. The instruments and parts are as follows:

- Fl. (Flute):** Measures 11-12 have a melodic line. Measure 13 has a rest, and measures 14-16 have a melodic line starting on a whole note.
- Ob. (Oboe):** Measures 11-12 have a melodic line. Measure 13 has a rest, and measures 14-16 have a melodic line starting on a whole note.
- Cl. 1-2 (Clarinet 1-2):** Measures 11-12 have a melodic line. Measure 13 has a rest, and measures 14-16 have a melodic line starting on a whole note.
- Cl. (HD) (Clarinet in D):** Measures 11-12 have a melodic line. Measure 13 has a rest, and measures 14-16 have a melodic line starting on a whole note.
- A. Sx. (Alto Saxophone):** Measures 11-12 have a melodic line. Measure 13 has a rest, and measures 14-16 have a melodic line starting on a whole note.
- T. Sx. (Tenor Saxophone):** Measures 11-12 have a melodic line. Measure 13 has a rest, and measures 14-16 have a melodic line starting on a whole note.
- Tpt. 1 (Trumpet 1):** Measures 11-12 have a melodic line. Measure 13 has a rest, and measures 14-16 have a melodic line starting on a whole note.
- Tpt. 2 (Trumpet 2):** Measures 11-12 have a melodic line. Measure 13 has a rest, and measures 14-16 have a melodic line starting on a whole note.
- Hn. (Horn):** Measures 11-12 have a melodic line. Measure 13 has a rest, and measures 14-16 have a melodic line starting on a whole note.
- Trb./Euph. (Trombone/Euphonium):** Measures 11-12 have a melodic line. Measure 13 has a rest, and measures 14-16 have a melodic line starting on a whole note.
- L.R. Tuba (Low Range Tuba):** Measures 11-12 have a melodic line. Measure 13 has a rest, and measures 14-16 have a melodic line starting on a whole note.
- Bls./Xyl. (Bassoon/XYlophone):** Measures 11-12 have a melodic line. Measure 13 has a rest, and measures 14-16 have a melodic line starting on a whole note.
- Ch. (Chorus):** Measures 11-12 have a melodic line. Measure 13 has a rest, and measures 14-16 have a melodic line starting on a whole note.
- Timp. (Timpani):** Measures 11-12 have a melodic line. Measure 13 has a rest, and measures 14-16 have a melodic line starting on a whole note.
- Perc. 1/2 A (Percussion 1/2 A):** Measures 11-12 have a melodic line. Measure 13 has a rest, and measures 14-16 have a melodic line starting on a whole note.
- Perc. 1/2 B (Percussion 1/2 B):** Measures 11-12 have a melodic line. Measure 13 has a rest, and measures 14-16 have a melodic line starting on a whole note.
- Perc. 3 (Percussion 3):** Measures 11-12 have a melodic line. Measure 13 has a rest, and measures 14-16 have a melodic line starting on a whole note.
- Perc. 4 (Percussion 4):** Measures 11-12 have a melodic line. Measure 13 has a rest, and measures 14-16 have a melodic line starting on a whole note.

The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and dynamic markings. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The time signature is 4/4. The score is written for a woodwind and brass section, with various instruments and parts. The measures are numbered 11 through 16 at the bottom of the page.

This musical score page contains measures 17 through 22. The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- Fl.**: Flute, playing a melodic line with grace notes.
- Ob.**: Oboe, playing a similar melodic line to the flute.
- Cl. 1-2**: Clarinets 1 and 2, playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.
- Cl. (HD)**: Clarinet in D, playing a similar rhythmic pattern.
- A. Sx.**: Alto Saxophone, playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.
- T. Sx.**: Tenor Saxophone, playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.
- Tpt. 1**: Trumpet 1, playing a melodic line with grace notes.
- Tpt. 2**: Trumpet 2, playing a similar melodic line to the first trumpet.
- Hn.**: Horn, playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.
- Trb./Euph.**: Trombone/Euphonium, playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.
- L.R. Tuba**: Low/Right Tuba, playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.
- Bls./Xyl.**: Basses/XYlophone, playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.
- Ch.**: Chimes, playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.
- Timp.**: Tom-toms, playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.
- Perc. 1/2 A**: Percussion 1/2 A, playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.
- Perc. 1/2 B**: Percussion 1/2 B, playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.
- Perc. 3**: Percussion 3, playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.
- Perc. 4**: Percussion 4, playing a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.

The score includes dynamic markings such as *mf* (mezzo-forte) and *f* (forte). The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor). The time signature is 4/4. The score is marked "To Coda (m.49)" at the end of measure 20.

Fl. *V₂* *mf*

Ob. *mf*

Cl. 1-2 *mp*

Cl. (HD) *mp*

A. Sx. *mf*

T. Sx. *mf*

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn. *mp*

Trb./Euph.

L.R. Tuba

Bls./Xyl.

Ch.

Timp.

Perc.1/2 A

Perc.1/2 B

Perc.3 *Sus. Cymbal (yarn mallets)* *p*

Perc.4

27

Musical score for measures 27 through 32 of "Dead Man's March". The score is written for a full orchestra and percussion. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats). The tempo is marked *mp* (mezzo-piano).

Measures 27-29: The woodwinds (Flute, Oboe, Clarinets 1-2, Clarinet in D) play a melodic line. The strings (Trombones 1-2, Horns, Trumpets 1-2) play a rhythmic accompaniment. The percussion (Percussion 1/2 A, Percussion 1/2 B, Percussion 3, Percussion 4) play a rhythmic pattern.

Measure 30: The woodwinds and strings continue their parts. The percussion (Percussion 3, Percussion 4) play a rhythmic pattern. The Bells only play a melodic line.

Measures 31-32: The woodwinds and strings continue their parts. The percussion (Percussion 3, Percussion 4) play a rhythmic pattern. The Bells only play a melodic line.

Instrument List:

- Fl.
- Ob.
- Cl. 1-2
- Cl. (HD)
- A. Sx.
- T. Sx.
- Tpt. 1
- Tpt. 2
- Hn.
- Trb./Euph.
- L.R. Tuba
- Bls./Xyl.
- Ch.
- Timp.
- Perc. 1/2 A
- Perc. 1/2 B
- Perc. 3
- Perc. 4

Dynamic Markings:

- mp* (mezzo-piano)
- p* (piano)
- mf* (mezzo-forte)

Measure Numbers: 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32

35

This musical score page, titled "DEAD MAN'S MARCH - SCORE", shows measures 33 through 38. A box labeled "35" is positioned above the Flute staff at the start of measure 35. The score is arranged in systems for various instruments. The first system includes Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet 1-2 (Cl. 1-2), Clarinet in D (Cl. (HD)), Alto Saxophone (A. Sx.), and Tenor Saxophone (T. Sx.). The second system includes Trumpet 1 (Tpt. 1), Trumpet 2 (Tpt. 2), Horn (Hn.), Trombone/Euphonium (Trb./Euph.), and Low Brass/Tuba (L.R. Tuba). The third system includes Bassoon/Alto Saxophone (Bls./Xyl.), Clarinet (Ch.), and Snare Drum (Timp.). The fourth system includes Percussion 1/2 A, Percussion 1/2 B, Percussion 3, and Percussion 4. Dynamics such as *p*, *mp*, *mf*, and *mp* are indicated throughout the score. The key signature has two flats, and the time signature is 4/4.

Fl.
Ob.
Cl. 1-2
Cl. (HD)
A. Sx.
T. Sx.
Tpt. 1
Tpt. 2
Hn.
Trb./Euph.
L.R. Tuba
Bls./Xyl.
Ch.
Timp.
Perc.1/2 A
Perc.1/2 B
Perc.3
Perc.4

33 34 35 36 37 38

[illegible]

DEAD MAN'S MARCH - SCORE

D.S. al Coda (m.5, 2nd Time)

[illegible]

52

DEAD MAN'S MARCH - SCORE

11

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. 1-2

Cl. (HD)

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Trb./
Euph.

L.R.
Tuba

Bls./
Xyl.

Ch.

Timp.

Perc.1/2 A

Perc.1/2 B

Perc.3

Perc.4

Triangle

p

mp

p

53

54

55

56