

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 | |
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- | |
|--|
| 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

Score
Grade 1.5
Duration: 2:30

Randall D. Standridge
(ASCAP)

Flute

Oboe

B♭ Clarinet 1-2

B♭ Clarinet (Horn Double)

E♭ Alto Saxophone

B♭ Tenor Saxophone

B♭ Trumpet 1

B♭ Trumpet 2

Horn in F

Trombone/Euphonium/Bassoon

Low Reeds Tuba

Bells/Xylophone

Chimes

Timpani (3)

Percussion 1 & 2 A
P1: Snare Drum
P2: Bass Drum

Percussion 1 & 2 B
P1: Snare Drum
P2: Bass Drum

Percussion 3
Crash Cymbals/
Suspended Cymbal

Percussion 4
Tambourine/
Triangle

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

13 Play Both Times

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. 1-2

Cl. (HD)

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

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

11 12 13 14 15 16

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

- Fl. (Flute):** Measures 17-19 have eighth-note patterns. Measure 20 has a whole note. Measure 21 has a whole rest. Measure 22 has a whole rest.
- Ob. (Oboe):** Measures 17-19 have eighth-note patterns. Measure 20 has a whole note. Measure 21 has a whole rest. Measure 22 has a whole rest.
- Cl. 1-2 (Clarinets 1 & 2):** Measures 17-19 have eighth-note patterns. Measure 20 has a whole note. Measure 21 has a whole rest. Measure 22 has a whole rest.
- Cl. (HD) (Clarinet in D):** Measures 17-19 have eighth-note patterns. Measure 20 has a whole note. Measure 21 has a whole rest. Measure 22 has a whole rest.
- A. Sx. (Alto Saxophone):** Measures 17-19 have eighth-note patterns. Measure 20 has a whole note. Measure 21 has a whole rest. Measure 22 has a whole rest.
- T. Sx. (Tenor Saxophone):** Measures 17-19 have eighth-note patterns. Measure 20 has a whole note. Measure 21 has a whole rest. Measure 22 has a whole rest.
- Tpt. 1 (Trumpet 1):** Measures 17-19 have eighth-note patterns. Measure 20 has a whole note. Measure 21 has a whole rest. Measure 22 has a whole rest.
- Tpt. 2 (Trumpet 2):** Measures 17-19 have eighth-note patterns. Measure 20 has a whole note. Measure 21 has a whole rest. Measure 22 has a whole rest.
- Hn. (Horn):** Measures 17-19 have eighth-note patterns. Measure 20 has a whole note. Measure 21 has a whole rest. Measure 22 has a whole rest.
- Trb./Euph. (Trombone/Euphonium):** Measures 17-19 have eighth-note patterns. Measure 20 has a whole note. Measure 21 has a whole rest. Measure 22 has a whole rest.
- L.R. Tuba (Low Range Tuba):** Measures 17-19 have eighth-note patterns. Measure 20 has a whole note. Measure 21 has a whole rest. Measure 22 has a whole rest.
- Bls./Xyl. (Bassoon/XYlophone):** Measures 17-19 have eighth-note patterns. Measure 20 has a whole note. Measure 21 has a whole rest. Measure 22 has a whole rest.
- Ch. (Chimes):** Measures 17-19 have eighth-note patterns. Measure 20 has a whole note. Measure 21 has a whole rest. Measure 22 has a whole rest.
- Timp. (Tom-tom):** Measures 17-19 have eighth-note patterns. Measure 20 has a whole note. Measure 21 has a whole rest. Measure 22 has a whole rest.
- Perc. 1/2 A (Percussion 1 & 2 A):** Measures 17-19 have eighth-note patterns. Measure 20 has a whole note. Measure 21 has a whole rest. Measure 22 has a whole rest.
- Perc. 1/2 B (Percussion 1 & 2 B):** Measures 17-19 have eighth-note patterns. Measure 20 has a whole note. Measure 21 has a whole rest. Measure 22 has a whole rest.
- Perc. 3 (Percussion 3):** Measures 17-19 have eighth-note patterns. Measure 20 has a whole note. Measure 21 has a whole rest. Measure 22 has a whole rest.
- Perc. 4 (Percussion 4):** Measures 17-19 have eighth-note patterns. Measure 20 has a whole note. Measure 21 has a whole rest. Measure 22 has a whole rest.

The score includes a "To Coda (m.49)" instruction above measure 20. The dynamic marking *mf* (mezzo-forte) is present in measures 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, and 22.

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 27-32 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" (moderato piano).

Measures 27-29: Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Clarinet 1 & 2 (Cl. 1-2), Clarinet in D (Cl. (HD)), Alto Saxophone (A. Sx.), and Tenor Saxophone (T. Sx.) are silent. Trumpets 1 and 2 (Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2) play a rhythmic pattern of quarter notes, starting on G4 and descending to E4. Horns (Hn.) play a melodic line starting on G4, moving to F4, E4, and D4. Trombone/Euphonium (Trb./Euph.) and Low Brass (L.R. Tuba) are silent.

Measure 30: Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), and Alto Saxophone (A. Sx.) enter with a melodic line starting on G4, moving to F4, E4, and D4. The dynamic is marked *mp*. The rest of the ensemble remains silent.

Measures 31-32: The ensemble continues with the same melodic and rhythmic patterns. The dynamic remains *mp*.

Percussion:

- Perc. 1/2 A and B:** Silent throughout.
- Perc. 3:** Plays a rhythmic pattern of quarter notes, starting on G4 and descending to E4. The dynamic is marked *mf*.
- Perc. 4:** Silent throughout.

Other Instruments:

- Bells only:** Enter in measure 30 with a melodic line starting on G4, moving to F4, E4, and D4. The dynamic is marked *mp*.
- Ch. (Chimes):** Silent throughout.
- Timp. (Timpani):** Silent throughout.

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

35

This musical score page contains measures 33 through 38 of the piece "Dead Man's March". The score is written for a large orchestra and includes the following parts:

- Fl.** (Flute): Measures 33-34 have a whole note G4. Measures 35-38 have a half note G4, then a half note F#4, then a half note E4, and finally a half note D4.
- Ob.** (Oboe): Similar to Flute, with a whole note G4 in measures 33-34 and a half-note sequence (G4, F#4, E4, D4) in measures 35-38.
- Cl. 1-2** (Clarinets 1 and 2): Play a half-note sequence (G4, F#4, E4, D4) in measures 33-34, then continue with the same sequence in measures 35-38.
- Cl. (HD)** (Clarinet in D): Similar to Cl. 1-2, playing a half-note sequence (G4, F#4, E4, D4) in measures 33-34 and continuing in measures 35-38.
- A. Sx.** (Alto Saxophone): Similar to Cl. 1-2, playing a half-note sequence (G4, F#4, E4, D4) in measures 33-34 and continuing in measures 35-38.
- T. Sx.** (Tenor Saxophone): Measures 33-34 have a whole note G3. Measures 35-38 have a half-note sequence (G3, F#3, E3, D3).
- Tpt. 1** (Trumpet 1): Measures 33-34 have a half-note sequence (G4, F#4, E4, D4). Measures 35-38 have a half-note sequence (G4, F#4, E4, D4).
- Tpt. 2** (Trumpet 2): Measures 33-34 have a half-note sequence (G4, F#4, E4, D4). Measures 35-38 have a half-note sequence (G4, F#4, E4, D4).
- Hn.** (Horn): Measures 33-34 have a half-note sequence (G4, F#4, E4, D4). Measures 35-38 have a half-note sequence (G4, F#4, E4, D4).
- Trb./Euph.** (Trombone/Euphonium): Measures 33-34 have a half-note sequence (G3, F#3, E3, D3). Measures 35-38 have a half-note sequence (G3, F#3, E3, D3).
- L.R. Tuba** (Low/Right Tuba): Measures 33-34 have a half-note sequence (G3, F#3, E3, D3). Measures 35-38 have a half-note sequence (G3, F#3, E3, D3).
- Bls./Xyl.** (Bassoon/Xylophone): Measures 33-34 have a whole note G4. Measures 35-38 have a half-note sequence (G4, F#4, E4, D4).
- Ch.** (Chorus): Measures 33-34 have a whole note G4. Measures 35-38 have a half-note sequence (G4, F#4, E4, D4).
- Timp.** (Timpani): Measures 33-34 have a half-note sequence (G3, F#3, E3, D3). Measures 35-38 have a half-note sequence (G3, F#3, E3, D3).
- Perc. 1/2 A** (Percussion 1/2 A): Measures 33-34 have a half-note sequence (G4, F#4, E4, D4). Measures 35-38 have a half-note sequence (G4, F#4, E4, D4).
- Perc. 1/2 B** (Percussion 1/2 B): Measures 33-34 have a half-note sequence (G4, F#4, E4, D4). Measures 35-38 have a half-note sequence (G4, F#4, E4, D4).
- Perc. 3** (Percussion 3): Measures 33-34 have a half-note sequence (G4, F#4, E4, D4). Measures 35-38 have a half-note sequence (G4, F#4, E4, D4).
- Perc. 4** (Percussion 4): Measures 33-34 have a half-note sequence (G4, F#4, E4, D4). Measures 35-38 have a half-note sequence (G4, F#4, E4, D4).

The score includes dynamic markings: *p* (piano), *mp* (mezzo-piano), *mf* (mezzo-forte), and *mp* (mezzo-piano). The key signature is one flat (Bb), and the time signature is 4/4.

43

The score is written for a large orchestra and includes the following parts and dynamics:

- Fl.**: Measures 39-42 have a melodic line. Measures 43-44 play a rhythmic pattern *f*.
- Ob.**: Similar to Flute, playing a melodic line in measures 39-42 and a rhythmic pattern *f* in measures 43-44.
- Cl. 1-2** and **Cl. (HD)**: Play a melodic line in measures 39-42. In measures 43-44, they play a rhythmic pattern *f*.
- A. Sx.**: Play a melodic line in measures 39-42 and a rhythmic pattern *f* in measures 43-44.
- T. Sx.**: Play a melodic line in measures 39-42 and a rhythmic pattern *f* in measures 43-44.
- Tpt. 1** and **Tpt. 2**: Play a melodic line in measures 39-42 and a rhythmic pattern *f* in measures 43-44.
- Hn.**: Play a melodic line in measures 39-42 and a rhythmic pattern *f* in measures 43-44.
- Trb./Euph.**: Play a melodic line in measures 39-42 and a rhythmic pattern *f* in measures 43-44.
- L.R. Tuba**: Play a melodic line in measures 39-42 and a rhythmic pattern *f* in measures 43-44.
- Bls./Xyl.**: Play a melodic line in measures 39-42 and a rhythmic pattern *f* in measures 43-44.
- Ch.**: Play a melodic line in measures 39-42 and a rhythmic pattern *f* in measures 43-44.
- Timp.**: Play a melodic line in measures 39-42 and a rhythmic pattern *p* in measures 43-44.
- Perc. 1/2 A** and **Perc. 1/2 B**: Play a rhythmic pattern *p* in measures 39-42 and *fff* in measures 43-44.
- Perc. 3**: Play a melodic line in measures 39-42 and a rhythmic pattern *mf* in measures 43-44.
- Perc. 4**: Play a melodic line in measures 39-42 and a rhythmic pattern *mp* in measures 43-44.

39 40 41 42 43 44

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.

p

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Trb./
Euph.

p

L.R.
Tuba

p

Bls./
Xyl.

Ch.

Timp.

p

Perc.1/2 A

p

Perc.1/2 B

p

Perc.3

mp

Perc.4

Triangle

p

53

54

55

56