

Krampus on the Rooftop

For Concert Band, Grade 1
By Randall D. Standridge (ASCAP)

Instrumentation

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 - Full Score | 4 - Bb Trumpet 1 |
| 8 - Flute | 4 - Bb Trumpet 2 |
| 2 - Oboe | 4 - F Horn |
| 2 - Bassoon | 6 - Trombone |
| 4 - Bb Clarinet 1 | 2 - Euphonium B.C. |
| 4 - Bb Clarinet 2 | 2 - Euphonium T.C. |
| 2 - Bb Bass Clarinet | 4 - Tuba |
| 6 - Eb Alto Saxophone | |
| 2 - Bb Tenor Saxophone | |
| 2 - Eb Baritone Saxophone | |
-
- | |
|---|
| 2 - Bells |
| 2 - Chimes/Xylophone |
| 2 - Timpani |
| 3 - Percussion 1&2: Wind Chimes/Snare Drum, Bass Drum |
| 2 - Percussion 3: Suspended Cymbal/Chains/Crash Cymbals/Whipcrack/Vibraslap |
| 2 - Percussion 4: Sleigh Bells/Chains/Flexatone |

Full Set - \$60.00

Extra Conductor Score - \$12.00

Extra Part - \$4.00



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Krampus on the Rooftop

By Randall D. Standridge

Program Notes

I have always had a deep love for two things: Christmas... and scary movies.

So naturally, when I discovered the legend of Krampus, I thought, "Well, this is perfect."

For those unfamiliar, Krampus is a figure from European folklore who accompanies Saint Nicholas. While Saint Nicholas rewards the good children, Krampus is responsible for dealing with the naughty ones... usually involving chains, branches, and a general sense that you should probably make better life choices. Also, Krampuslauf, the traditional celebration of Krampus, takes place on December 5th, which just so happens to be my birthday. So really, this was inevitable.

Now, I will admit, this is not my first musical encounter with Krampus. About ten years ago, I wrote a piece based on this character that was, shall we say... a bit intense. A *Christmas Tale: Beware the Krampus* was deemed "too scary" for some performers and audiences. So with this piece, I wanted to revisit the idea, but make it more accessible. A little shorter. A little lighter. Still spooky... but maybe not nightmare-inducing.

Krampus on the Rooftop is a Grade 1 work for band and narrator that tells the tale of a Christmas Eve visit from this infamous holiday creature. The piece begins with an ominous warning from the narrator as the band sets a dark and mysterious tone. Soon after, a familiar tune emerges, a minor mode version of *Up on the Housetop*, twisted just enough to make you wonder if something is not quite right. Throughout the piece, you will hear rattling chains, sudden musical surprises, his heavy steps signified by the bass drum, and even a few screams. The whip crack represents Krampus's bundle of branches, which he uses to swat those on the naughty list.

Am I revisiting familiar ground? Maybe. But I believe Krampus deserves his moment in the spotlight. He is a colorful and mischievous part of holiday folklore, and this piece offers a fun and slightly spooky way to introduce him to a new generation of young musicians.

So as you settle in on Christmas Eve...if you hear something on the rooftop...just hope that it's reindeer.

Peace, Love, and Music... and a Scary, Scary Christmas to all. - Randall

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.

-The chains used in the percussion part should just be everyday chains you can buy at the hardware store. They just need to sound metallic when rattled.

-The tone of the narrator can really decide how scary or not this piece is. Make sure the intent is clear. I'm good either way.

-If you really want to amp this one up, consider costuming for the narrator, fog machines, maybe even a Krampus roaming the auditorium. Use your imagination and deal with the angry emails tomorrow.

-Percussion should be on the higher end of dynamic balance. Do not hide them.

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 list. His compositions *Snake Charmer*, *Gently Blows the Summer Wind*, and *Angelic Celebrations* have been included in the "Teaching Music Through Performance in Band" series, and 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 works *Stonewall: 1969*, *unBroken*, and *Animation (Episode 1: WABBIT!)*, have all been recognized as honorable mentions for the American Prize in Composition, and his *Symphony no.1: A Ghost Story* was premiered in 2023 and was awarded 3rd Place in the American Prize for Composition in 2025. 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 chief editor of Randall Standridge Music, LLC, and Grand Mesa Marching. He is in demand as a composer, conductor, clinician, and arranger/designer for the marching arts. He lives in Jonesboro, Arkansas, with his husband, Steven, and their very, very spoiled pets.



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Concert work: Krampus on the Rooftop (Standard edition, RSMC119)

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Director

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SCORE
GRADE 1
DURATION: 2:30

Krampus on the Rooftop

RANDALL STANDRIDGE
(ASCAP)

With fear $\text{♩} = 84$

3 1) The children this year had been naughty, not nice
2) For Santa won't come, no he will not be near,

1) And now, on this Christmas, they must pay the price!
2) Instead comes the Krampus to spread Christmas fear!

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with 18 staves. The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- Narrator:** Provides the spoken text for the scene.
- Flute:** Features a melodic line starting in measure 5, marked *pp* and *Div.*
- Oboe:** Mirrors the flute's melody, also marked *pp* and *Div.*
- B♭ Clarinet 1 & 2:** Play sustained notes, marked *pp* and *Play 2nd Time only*.
- E♭ Alto Saxophone & B♭ Tenor Saxophone:** Play sustained notes, marked *pp* and *Play 2nd Time only*.
- B♭ Trumpet 1 & 2:** Play melodic lines, marked *pp* and *Play 2nd Time only*.
- Horn in F:** Plays a sustained note, marked *pp* and *Play 2nd Time only*.
- Trombone:** Plays a sustained note, marked *pp*.
- Euphonium/Bassoon (opt. Trb. 2):** Plays a sustained note, marked *pp*.
- Low Reeds/Tuba:** Plays a sustained note, marked *pp*.
- Bells:** Play a rhythmic pattern, marked *p* and *pp*.
- Chimes/Xylophone:** Play a rhythmic pattern, marked *pp*.
- Timpani (G, C, F):** Play a rhythmic pattern, marked *p*.
- Percussion 1 & 2*:** Includes Wind Chimes (*p*), Bass Drum (*pp*), and Snare Drum (*mp*).
- Percussion 3:** Includes Suspended Cymbal/Chains/Crash Cymbals/Whipcrack/Vibraslap (*p*) and Suspended Cymbal (yarn mallets) (*mf*).
- Percussion 4:** Includes Sleigh Bells (*p*).

The score is divided into six measures, with a repeat sign at the beginning of measure 3. Dynamics range from *pp* (pianissimo) to *mf* (mezzo-forte).

1 2 3 4 5 6

RSMC119

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Krampus on the Rooftop - Score

7

3) You'll hear his chains CLANK as they drag on the roof...

(chains rattle)

4) Then a Thump, Thump, THUMP from the steps of his hooves...

5) So hush now, my children and stay well out of sight...

6) For the Krampus is here, on this long winter's night!

The score is written for a large ensemble. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The score is divided into measures 7 through 12. The Narrator part consists of rhythmic slashes representing sound effects. The instrumental parts include woodwinds (Flute, Oboe, Clarinets 1 & 2, Saxophones), brass (Trumpets 1 & 2, Horns, Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba), strings (Basses), chimes, timpani, and four percussion parts. Dynamics range from *mf* to *ff*. Performance instructions include 'Hit BD 4 times very loudly' and 'Rattle Chains loudly'. The score concludes with a *fp* dynamic in measure 12.

7

8

9

10

11

12

Crampus on the Rooftop - Score

13 Creeping $\text{♩} = 120$

17

The score is arranged in a standard orchestral format with the following parts from top to bottom:

- Narr. (Narrator): Silent throughout.
- Fl. (Flute): *f* in measures 13-15, *ff* in measure 16.
- Ob. (Oboe): *f* in measures 13-15, *ff* in measure 16.
- Cl. 1 (Clarinet 1): *f* in measures 13-15, *ff* in measure 16, *p* (opt. Solo) in measure 17.
- Cl. 2 (Clarinet 2): *f* in measures 13-15, *ff* in measure 16, *p* (opt. Solo) in measure 17.
- A. Sx. (Alto Saxophone): *f* in measures 13-15, *ff* in measure 16.
- T. Sx. (Tenor Saxophone): *f* in measures 13-15, *ff* in measure 16.
- Tpt. 1 (Trumpet 1): *f* in measures 13-15, *ff* in measure 16.
- Tpt. 2 (Trumpet 2): *f* in measures 13-15, *ff* in measure 16.
- Hn. (Horn): *f* in measures 13-15, *ff* in measure 16.
- Trb. (Trombone): *f* in measures 13-15, *ff* in measure 16.
- Euph. Bssn. (Euphonium/Bass Trombone): *f* in measures 13-15, *ff* in measure 16.
- L.R. Tuba (Left/Right Tuba): *f* in measures 13-15, *ff* in measure 16.
- Bls. (Bassoon): *f* in measure 15, *ff* in measure 16.
- Chm. (Chimes): *f* in measure 15, *ff* in measure 16. Includes instruction: "Xylophone (hard mallets)".
- Timp. (Timpani): *f* in measures 13-15, *ff* in measure 16.
- Perc. 1/2 (Percussion 1/2): *f* in measures 13-15, *ff* in measure 16. Includes instruction: "Rim (opt. woodblock)" in measure 17.
- Perc. 3 (Percussion 3): *sfz* in measure 16. Includes instruction: "Whipcrack" in measure 16.
- Perc. 4 (Percussion 4): *f* in measures 13-15, *ff* in measure 16.

27

Narr.

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Trb.

Euph. Bssn.

L.R. Tuba

Bls.

Xyl.

Timp.

Perc. 1/2

Perc. 3

Perc. 4

Sus. Cym.

Flexatone

Crash Cyms. (Ch.)

25 26 27 28 29 30

Krampus on the Rooftop - Score

Narr.

Fl. *mf* *ff*

Ob. *mf* *ff*

Cl. 1 *mf* *ff* (opt. Solo) *p*

Cl. 2 *mf* *ff* (opt. Solo) *p*

A. Sx. *mf* *ff*

T. Sx. *mf* *ff*

Tpt. 1 *mf* *ff*

Tpt. 2 *mf* *ff*

Hn. *mf* *ff*

Trb. *mf* *ff* (6th position) *p*

Euph. Bssn. *mf* *ff* *p*

L.R. Tuba *mf* *ff* *p*

Bls. *mf* *ff*

Xyl. *mf* *ff*

Timp. *mf* *ff* *p*

Perc. 1/2 *mf* *ff* *sfz* *p*

Perc. 3 *ff*

Perc. 4 Sleigh Bells *mf*

Krampus on the Rooftop - Score

Narr.

Fl. Div. (opt. high notes only)
mf

Ob. *mf*

Cl. 1 *mf*

Cl. 2 *mf*

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Trb.

Euph. Bssn.

L.R. Tuba

Bls. *mf*

Xyl.

Timp.

Perc.1/2

Perc.3 *mf* Sus. Cym. *p*

Perc.4

Krampus on the Rooftop - Score

48

The score is arranged in two systems. The first system includes Narrator, Flute, Oboe, Clarinet 1, Clarinet 2, Alto Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone, Trumpet 1, Trumpet 2, Horn, Trombone, Euphonium/Bassoon, and Low Drum/Tuba. The second system includes Basses, Xylophone, and three Percussion parts (Perc. 1/2, Perc. 3, Perc. 4). The music is in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats. The score spans measures 48 to 53. Measure 48 is marked with a box containing the number 48. Measure 49 features a flexatone effect on Perc. 4, marked with *mf*. Measure 51 features a flexatone effect on Perc. 4, marked with *mf*. Measure 53 features a flexatone effect on Perc. 4, marked with *mf*. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, slurs, and dynamic markings.

Narr.

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Trb.

Euph. Bssn.

L.R. Tuba

Bls.

Xyl.

Timp.

Perc.1/2

Perc.3

Perc.4

f

mf

ff

Scream: AAAAH!

Vibraslap

Whipcrack

sfz

(6th position)

The musical score is arranged in a system with 18 staves. The instruments and their parts are as follows:

- Narr.**: Narrator part, mostly rests.
- Fl.**: Flute, starts in measure 61 with a *mf* dynamic.
- Ob.**: Oboe, starts in measure 61 with a *mf* dynamic.
- Cl. 1**: Clarinet 1, starts in measure 61 with a *mf* dynamic.
- Cl. 2**: Clarinet 2, starts in measure 61 with a *mf* dynamic.
- A. Sx.**: Alto Saxophone, starts in measure 60 with a *mf* dynamic.
- T. Sx.**: Tenor Saxophone, starts in measure 60 with a *mf* dynamic.
- Tpt. 1**: Trumpet 1, starts in measure 61 with a *mf* dynamic.
- Tpt. 2**: Trumpet 2, starts in measure 61 with a *mf* dynamic.
- Hn.**: Horn, starts in measure 61 with a *mf* dynamic.
- Trb.**: Trombone, starts in measure 60 with a *mf* dynamic.
- Euph. Bssn.**: Euphonium/Bassoon, starts in measure 60 with a *mf* dynamic.
- L.R. Tuba**: Large/Small Tuba, starts in measure 60 with a *mf* dynamic.
- Bls.**: Baritone Saxophone, starts in measure 61 with a *mf* dynamic.
- Xyl.**: Xylophone, starts in measure 61 with a *mf* dynamic.
- Timp.**: Timpani, starts in measure 60 with a *fp* dynamic.
- Perc. 1/2**: Percussion 1/2, starts in measure 60 with a *mf* dynamic.
- Perc. 3**: Percussion 3, rests.
- Perc. 4**: Percussion 4, rests.

64

(Evil Laughter)

Narr.

Fl.

Ob.

Cl. 1

Cl. 2

A. Sx.

T. Sx.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Trb.

Euph. Bssn.

L.R. Tuba

Bls.

Xyl.

Timp.

Perc.1/2

Perc.3

Perc.4

Crash Cyms.

Whipcrack

Flexatone

f

ff

mf

sub p

(opt. Solo)

All

64 65 66 67 68