

String Orchestra

Grade 1.5

MARCH TO THE DRAGON'S LAIR

Lauren Culver

INSTRUMENTATION

1 Conductor Score
8 Violin 1
8 Violin 2
3 Violin 3 (Viola T.C.)
5 Viola
5 Cello
3 Cello 2 (D.B.)
5 Double Bass
1 Rehearsal Piano

Full Set \$55.00

Extra Score \$10.00

Extra Part \$5.00

DogSmile Music



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THE COMPOSER



Lauren Culver is a composer and arranger whose works have been performed by both school ensembles and professional musicians. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Music Education and Violin Performance from Roosevelt University. She is an active violinist and violist, performing regularly with local orchestras and chamber ensembles. In addition to her work as a performer and composer, Lauren teaches 5th-grade orchestra and maintains a private studio for violin and viola students.

THE WORK

Step boldly into a world of fire and legend with March to the Dragon's Lair, a thrilling work for string orchestra that sets the stage for an epic adventure. A driving melody propels the ensemble forward, evoking the image of brave heroes approaching the lair of a mighty dragon. Accents and dynamic shifts add intensity and drama to life. With overlapping melodies shared across the sections, every player becomes part of the story. Perfect for a fantasy-themed concert, this piece promises excitement, energy, and a touch of danger!

PERFORMANCE NOTES

- **Accent (>)** - Using a fast bow, add extra weight to the start of a note to emphasize an accented note. The composer uses many accents in the piece so be sure to maintain the intensity.
- **Pesante** - During these sections be sure to keep the sound heavy and full by keeping the bow closer to the bridge as well as maintain your bow weight.
- **Tenuto** - Watch out for spots where the style changes to longer, more connected bows. These are marked with a tenuto marking
- **Dynamics** - There are many dynamic changes throughout this piece. Students will have to manipulate their bow weight, speed, and location in order to achieve these changes accurately.

March to the Dragon's Lair

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With Courage ♩ = 110

Violin 1
f pesante

Violin 2
f pesante

Viola
f pesante

Cello
f pesante

Double Bass
f pesante

Rehearsal Piano
f pesante

1 2 3 4 5

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

Reh. Pno.

1. 2. 10

6 7 8 9 10 11



March to the Dragon's Lair
Score

14

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

Reh. Pno.

12 14 15 16 17

19

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

Db.

Reh. Pno.

18 19 20 21 22 23

March to the Dragon's Lair
Score

Musical score for measures 24-29. The score includes staves for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., Db., and Reh. Pno. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/4. The music features a steady rhythmic pattern with various note values and rests.

13

Musical score for measures 30-35. The score includes staves for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., Db., and Reh. Pno. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/4. A double bar line is present at the beginning of measure 30. Measure 31 includes performance instructions: *p* (piano) and *arco* (arco) for the string parts. The Vc. and Db. parts have *f* (forte) markings and *V* (vibrato) markings. The Reh. Pno. part continues with its accompaniment.

March to the Dragon's Lair
Score

39

Musical score for measures 36-41. The score includes parts for Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, Double Bass, and Rehearsal Piano. Measure 39 is highlighted with a box containing the number 39. Dynamics include *pp*, *mp*, and *p*.

36 37 38 39 40 41

43

Musical score for measures 42-47. The score includes parts for Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Violoncello, Double Bass, and Rehearsal Piano. Measure 43 is highlighted with a box containing the number 43. Dynamics include *f*.

March to the Dragon's Lair
Score

51

Musical score for measures 48-53. The score includes parts for Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), Double Bass (Db.), and Piano (Pno.). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/4. The dynamic marking *mf* (mezzo-forte) is present in measures 50, 51, and 52. The piano part features a steady eighth-note accompaniment with accents.

48

49

50

51

52

53

Musical score for measures 54-59. The score includes parts for Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), Double Bass (Db.), and Piano (Pno.). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/4. The dynamic marking *f* (forte) is present in measures 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, and 59. The piano part features a steady eighth-note accompaniment with accents. The double bass part includes fingering instructions: "III pos. -4 2" and "I pos. -4".

54

55

56

57

58

59

