

A Light Before Dawn

For Concert Band, Grade 3.5

By Gavin Lendt

Instrumentation

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| 1 - Full Score | 3 - Bb Trumpet 1 |
| 4 - Flute 1 | 3 - Bb Trumpet 2 |
| 4 - Flute 2 | 3 - Bb Trumpet 3 |
| 2 - Oboe | 3 - F Horn 1 |
| 2 - Bassoon | 3 - F Horn 2 |
| 3 - Bb Clarinet 1 | 2 - Trombone 1 |
| 3 - Bb Clarinet 2 | 2 - Trombone 2 |
| 3 - Bb Clarinet 3 | 2 - Trombone 3 |
| 2 - Bb Bass Clarinet | 4 - Euphonium B.C. |
| 2 - Eb Alto Saxophone 1 | 2 - Euphonium T.C. |
| 2 - Eb Alto Saxophone 2 | 4 - Tuba |
| 2 - Bb Tenor Saxophone | |
| 2 - Eb Baritone Saxophone | |
| | |
| 2 - Bells | |
| 2 - Marimba | |
| 2 - Vibraphone | |
| 2 - Timpani | |
| 2 - Percussion: Wind Chimes/Suspended Cymbal/Bass Drum/Crash Cymbals | |
| 2 - Piano | |

Full Set - \$60.00

Extra Conductor Score - \$12.00

Extra Part - \$4.00



A Light Before Dawn

By Gavin Lendt

About the Work

Commissioned by band director Scott Weber and the Benton Community High School Band Boosters, Benton, Iowa, "A Light Before Dawn" stands as a poignant tribute in memory of Debbie, a saxophone player in the band whose life was tragically cut short.

This composition serves as a heartfelt memorial, capturing the essence of hope, resilience, and the enduring light that persists even in the face of profound loss.

The music unfolds like a narrative, reflecting the emotional landscape surrounding Debbie's memory. From gentle, reflective passages to powerful crescendos, "A Light Before Dawn" navigates the complexities of grief while offering a musical embrace to those who influenced us.

"A Light Before Dawn" invites listeners to share in the collective reflection on love, loss, and the enduring light that lives on in our hearts.

Rehearsal Suggestions

If a piano is not available for the performance, utilize either the provided cues at the beginning or allow the flute solo to be performed unaccompanied. The other piano cues throughout the piece should be played in the absence of a piano.

The alto saxophone solos throughout the piece symbolize Debbie, who was a saxophone player.

Measure 35 (Innocently) should be slightly faster and waltz-like.

Exercise restraint in the Fortissimo at measure 73; avoid making the piece excessively loud.

The fermata silence at measure 73 should persist until any decay or reverb has completely dissipated. Music is an interplay between sound and silence, allowing silence the room to breathe.

The Trumpet, Clarinet, and Flute solos in measure 78 hold a special significance as they were originally intended to be played by three of Debbie's closest friends.

Take your time with the mallet's G and Bb fermatas in the final measure. Also, the long notes of the winds in the final bar should fade into nothing. Instead of stopping the sound, you're starting the silence.



About the Composer

Gavin Lendt is an award-winning composer, conductor, and horn player. Known mostly for his band works, he is also a recognized composer of music for orchestra, choir, solo instruments, and small ensembles, and he writes music for YouTube and Twitch content creators. He has received several commissions throughout the United States, and his music has been performed all over the world. Most recently, his work "A Wind in Time" was selected as a winner of the 2021 Grand Mesa Music Composition Contest. In December of 2022, he premiered his large-scale work for orchestra and choir, "Living in the Light."

His music is known for incorporating rich harmonies and dramatic counterlines. Both students and teachers find his music accessible and enjoyable to play. Many high school bands have received superior ratings at contests for their performances of his works.

Gavin studied composition at the University of Kansas with James Barnes and has had private instruction with luminary composers such as Stephen Melillo, John Mackey, Julie Giroux, Charles Rochester Young and Gabriela Frank.

An avid horn player, Gavin has performed with the Topeka Symphony, Kansas City Civic Orchestra, Hollywood Hills Orchestra, and the Lenexa Orchestra. Gavin is also the musical director and arranger for the Kansas City Horn Club, a nonprofit organization designed to share enthusiasm and increase interest in the horn. Gavin lives in Lenexa, Kansas, with his music educator wife, Stacy.

FULL SCORE
GRADE 3.5
DURATION 4:45

Commissioned by the Benton Community School District High School Bands,
directed by Scott Weber, in honor of their classmate and friend, Debbie

A Light Before Dawn

GAVIN LENDT

ASCAP

Adagio $\text{♩} = 60$

1. Solo dolce

tutti

a2

The score is for a full band and piano. It begins with a tempo of Adagio at 60 beats per minute. The key signature has two flats. The score is divided into six measures, with rehearsal marks 1 through 6. The instruments and their parts are:

- Flute 1/2:** Solo dolce, starting with *mp*, then *mf*, *mp*, *mf*, *mp*, and ending with *p esp.*
- Oboe:** Rests until measure 4, then *p esp.*
- Bassoon:** Rests until measure 4, then *p esp.*
- B♭ Clarinet 1:** Rests until measure 4, then *p esp.*
- B♭ Clarinet 2/3:** Rests until measure 4, then *p esp.*
- B♭ Bass Clarinet:** Rests until measure 4, then *pp n.*
- E♭ Alto Saxophone 1/2:** Rests until measure 4, then *pp n.*
- B♭ Tenor Saxophone:** Rests until measure 4, then *pp n.*
- E♭ Baritone Saxophone:** Rests until measure 4, then *pp n.*
- B♭ Trumpet 1:** Rests until measure 4, then *pp n.*
- B♭ Trumpet 2/3:** Rests until measure 4, then *pp n.*
- F Horn 1/2:** Rests until measure 4, then *pp n.*
- Trombone 1:** Rests until measure 4, then *pp n.*
- Trombone 2/3:** Rests until measure 4, then *pp n.*
- Euphonium:** Rests until measure 4, then *pp n.*
- Tuba:** Rests until measure 4, then *pp n.*
- Bells:** Rests until measure 4, then *pp n.*
- Marimba:** Rests until measure 4, then *pp n.*
- Vibraphone:** Rests until measure 4, then *pp n.*
- Timpani (F, G, B♭, E):** Rests until measure 4, then *pp n.*
- Percussion:** Rests until measure 4, then *pp n.*
- Piano:** Starts with *p*, then *mp*, *p*, *mp*, *p*, and ends with *pp esp.*

Rehearsal marks 3 and 4 are placed at the end of measures 3 and 4 respectively. A note in measure 4 indicates "(Motor Speed: Medium Slow)".

A Light Before Dawn

This musical score is for the piece "A Light Before Dawn". It is a full orchestral score with the following instruments and parts:

- Fl. 1/2
- Ob.
- Bsn.
- B♭ Cl. 1
- B♭ Cl. 2/3
- B. Cl.
- A. Sx. 1/2
- T. Sx.
- B. Sx.
- B♭ Tpt. 1
- B♭ Tpt. 2/3
- Hn. 1/2
- Tbn. 1
- Tbn. 2/3
- Euph.
- Tuba
- Bls.
- Mrb.
- Vib.
- Timp.
- Perc.
- Pn.

The score is written in a key signature of two flats (B♭ and E♭) and a 4/4 time signature. It features dynamic markings such as *p*, *mf*, *mp*, *p*, *pp*, and *mf*. Performance instructions include *play*, *div.*, *tutti*, and *α2*. The score is divided into measures 7 through 12, with rehearsal marks at measures 7 and 11. A large watermark "Kandall Standridge Music Preview Only" is overlaid on the page.

This musical score is for the piece "A Light Before Dawn" and spans measures 13 to 19. The instrumentation includes:

- Flute 1/2 (Fl. 1/2)
- Oboe (Ob.)
- Bassoon (Bsn.)
- B♭ Clarinet 1 (B♭ Cl. 1)
- B♭ Clarinet 2/3 (B♭ Cl. 2/3)
- Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.)
- Alto Saxophone 1/2 (A. Sx. 1/2)
- Tenor Saxophone (T. Sx.)
- Bass Saxophone (B. Sx.)
- B♭ Trumpet 1 (B♭ Tpt. 1)
- B♭ Trumpet 2/3 (B♭ Tpt. 2/3)
- Horn 1/2 (Hn. 1/2)
- Trombone 1 (Tbn. 1)
- Trombone 2/3 (Tbn. 2/3)
- Euphonium (Euph.)
- Tuba
- Bass Drum (Bls.)
- Maracas (Mrb.)
- Vibraphone (Vib.)
- Timpani (Timp.)
- Other Percussion (Perc.)
- Piano (Pn.)

The score features complex rhythmic patterns with frequent changes in meter, indicated by large numbers (2, 3, 4) above the staves. Dynamic markings such as *mf*, *mp*, *mf*, *p*, and *pp* are used throughout. Performance instructions include "play" and "play a2". The percussion part includes a "B.D." (Bass Drum) section with dynamics *pp* and *p*. The vibraphone part is marked "mf (w/medium mallets)".

This page of the musical score covers measures 20 through 26. The instrumentation includes Flute 1/2, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinet in Bb 1, Clarinet in Bb 2/3, Clarinet in C, Alto Saxophone 1/2, Tenor Saxophone, Baritone Saxophone, Trumpet 1, Trumpet 2/3, Horn 1/2, Trombone 1, Trombone 2/3, Euphonium, Tuba, Bells, Maracas, Vibraphone, Timpani, Suspended Cymbal, Percussion, and Piano. The score features various dynamics such as *f*, *mp*, *p*, *pp*, and *mf*. There are several 4-measure rests and 3-measure rests indicated by large numbers. A 'Solo' section is marked for the Alto Saxophone 1/2 in measure 24. The Piano part has a 'Pno. a2' marking in measure 25. The percussion part includes 'B.D.' (Bass Drum) in measure 22. The score is written in a key signature of two flats and a common time signature.

poco rit.

A tempo, delicately

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

- Fl. 1/2:** Flute parts with large time signature changes (3, 2, 4, 5, 3, 4) and dynamics like *p*.
- Ob.:** Oboe parts with large time signature changes and dynamics like *p*.
- Bsn.:** Bassoon part with large time signature changes and dynamics like *p*.
- B. Cl. 1:** Bass Clarinet 1 part with large time signature changes, dynamics like *pp*, and a *play* instruction.
- B. Cl. 2/3:** Bass Clarinet 2/3 part with large time signature changes, dynamics like *pp*, and a *play* instruction.
- B. Cl.:** Bass Clarinet part with large time signature changes, dynamics like *p*, and a *play* instruction.
- A. Sx. 1/2:** Alto Saxophone 1/2 part with large time signature changes, dynamics like *mf* and *pp*, and a *1. tutti* instruction.
- T. Sx.:** Tenor Saxophone part with large time signature changes and dynamics like *p*.
- B. Sx.:** Baritone Saxophone part with large time signature changes and dynamics like *p*.
- B. Tpt. 1:** Bass Trumpet 1 part with large time signature changes, dynamics like *p*, and *pp*.
- B. Tpt. 2/3:** Bass Trumpet 2/3 part with large time signature changes.
- Hn. 1/2:** Horn 1/2 part with large time signature changes.
- Tbn. 1:** Trombone 1 part with large time signature changes.
- Tbn. 2/3:** Trombone 2/3 part with large time signature changes.
- Euph.:** Euphonium part with large time signature changes.
- Tuba:** Tuba part with large time signature changes, dynamics like *p*, and a *Play in absence of piano. B. Cl.* instruction.
- Bls.:** Baritone part with large time signature changes.
- Mrb.:** Maracas part with large time signature changes.
- Vib.:** Vibraphone part with large time signature changes and dynamics like *mp*.
- Timp.:** Timpani part with large time signature changes.
- Perc.:** Percussion part with large time signature changes.
- Pn.:** Piano part with large time signature changes.

This musical score is for the piece "A Light Before Dawn" and spans measures 39 to 44. The instrumentation includes Flute 1/2, Oboe, Bassoon, B♭ Clarinet 1, B♭ Clarinet 2/3, B♭ Clarinet, Alto Saxophone 1/2, Tenor Saxophone, Bass Saxophone, B♭ Trumpet 1, B♭ Trumpet 2/3, Horn 1/2, Trombone 1, Trombone 2/3, Euphonium, Tuba, Bells, Maracas, Vibraphone, Timpani, Percussion (B.D., Sus. Cym.), and Piano. The score features dynamic markings such as *mf*, *mp*, *p*, and *pp*. There are several 4/4 time signatures and a 3/4 time signature. A large watermark "Randall's Music Online" is visible across the score.

A Light Before Dawn

rit. Slightly faster ♩ = 76

Fl. 1/2
Ob.
Bsn.
B. Cl. 1
B. Cl. 2/3
B. Cl.
A. Sx. 1/2
T. Sx.
B. Sx.
B. Tpt. 1
B. Tpt. 2/3
Hn. 1/2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2/3
Euph.
Tuba
Bls.
Mrb.
Vib.
Timp.
Perc.
Pn.

45 46 47 48 49 50 51

poco rit.

55 Adagio, molto rubato ♩ = 66

The musical score is arranged in a standard orchestral format. The instruments listed on the left are: Fl. 1/2, Ob., Bsn., B♭ Cl. 1, B♭ Cl. 2/3, B. Cl., A. Sx. 1/2, T. Sx., B. Sx., B♭ Tpt. 1, B♭ Tpt. 2/3, Hn. 1/2, Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2/3, Euph., Tuba, Bls., Mrb., Vib., Timp., Perc., and Pn. The score is divided into measures 52 through 57. A large watermark 'Standard Music' is overlaid diagonally across the page. Performance markings include dynamics (mp, mf, p, pp, mf, p), articulation (accents), and breath marks (a2). A large '4' is placed above measures 52-54, and a large '3' is placed above measures 55-57. The piano part (Pn.) is at the bottom, showing a simple harmonic accompaniment.

A Light Before Dawn

poco rit.

62 Adagio ♩ = 60

The musical score is arranged in systems for various instruments. The woodwinds section includes Flutes 1/2, Oboe, Bassoon, Clarinets in Bb (1, 2/3), and Saxophones (Alto 1/2, Tenor, Baritone). The brass section includes Trumpets (Bb 1, 2/3), Horns (1/2), Trombones (1, 2/3), Euphonium, and Tuba. The percussion section includes Basses, Maracas, Vibraphone, and Timpani. The piano part is at the bottom. The score features dynamic markings such as *mp*, *mf*, *p*, and *ff*, and includes performance instructions like 'play' and 'poco rit.'. Large numbers '4' and '3' are placed above the woodwind staves, likely indicating fingerings or breath marks. A watermark 'Grandall Standard Music' is visible across the score.

A Light Before Dawn

molto rit.

67 A tempo

Fl. 1/2
Ob.
Bsn.
B♭ Cl. 1
B♭ Cl. 2/3
B. Cl.
A. Sx. 1/2
T. Sx.
B. Sx.
B♭ Tpt. 1
B♭ Tpt. 2/3
Hn. 1/2
Tbn. 1
Tbn. 2/3
Euph.
Tuba
Bls.
Mrb.
Vib.
Timp.
Perc.
Pn.

64 65 66 67 68

molto rit.

This page of a musical score for 'A Light Before Dawn' features a variety of instruments and dynamic markings. The instruments listed on the left include Fl. 1/2, Ob., Bsn., B♭ Cl. 1, B♭ Cl. 2/3, B. Cl., A. Sx. 1/2, T. Sx., B. Sx., B♭ Tpt. 1, B♭ Tpt. 2/3, Hn. 1/2, Tbn. 1, Tbn. 2/3, Euph., Tuba, Bls., Mrb., Vib., Timp., Perc., and Pn. The score is divided into measures 69, 70, 71, 72, and 73. Large numbers (2, 4, 3, 4, 3, 4) are placed above the staves to indicate time signature changes. Dynamic markings such as *f*, *mf*, *mp*, *ff*, and *pp* are used throughout. Performance instructions include 'molto rit.' at the top right, 'dampen' for the Bells and Vibraphone, and 'Cr. Cym.' for the Cymbals. A watermark 'MusicalScoreOnline.com' is visible across the score.

