

# The Pit and the Pendulum

Michael Story (ASCAP)

---

## INSTRUMENTATION

---

- 1 Conductor
- 8 Flute
- 2 Oboe
- 2 Bassoon
- 4 1st B $\flat$  Clarinet
- 4 2nd B $\flat$  Clarinet
- 2 B $\flat$  Bass Clarinet
- 5 E $\flat$  Alto Saxophone
- 2 B $\flat$  Tenor Saxophone
- 2 E $\flat$  Baritone Saxophone
- 4 1st B $\flat$  Trumpet
- 4 2nd B $\flat$  Trumpet

- 4 F Horn
- 4 Trombone
- 2 Baritone
- 2 Baritone Treble Clef
- 4 Tuba
- 2 Mallet Percussion  
(Bells/Chimes)
- 1 Timpani  
(Tune: G, A, D)
- 2 Percussion I  
(Snare Drum, Bass Drum)
- 3 Percussion II  
(Suspended Cymbal, Shaker, Tom-Tom)

### WORLD PARTS

Available for download from  
[www.alfred.com/worldparts](http://www.alfred.com/worldparts)

- Horn in E $\flat$
- Trombone in B $\flat$  Bass Clef
- Trombone in B $\flat$  Treble Clef
- Baritone in B $\flat$  Bass Clef
- Tuba in E $\flat$  Bass Clef
- Tuba in E $\flat$  Treble Clef
- Tuba in B $\flat$  Bass Clef
- Tuba in B $\flat$  Treble Clef

## PROGRAM NOTES

*The Pit and the Pendulum* is based upon the short story horror classic of the same name by Edgar Allen Poe. Poe's tale, written in 1842, tells the story of a prisoner sentenced to death by the Spanish Inquisition for a crime that is not explained in the narrative. He finds himself in a darkened cell, tied by ropes to a wooden board. To his horror, he sees attached to the ceiling a huge swinging pendulum with a sharp blade that is gradually lowering towards him. The quick-thinking prisoner rubs food on the ropes, enticing rats to chew through them and free the man.

The prisoner is next faced with the red-hot walls of the cell moving inward, pushing him towards the brink of the pit. At the last minute, however, an arm grabs him, saving him from plunging into the pit and certain death.

## NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

*The Pit and the Pendulum* contains four percussion part utilizing seven players, although the piece can be performed successfully with less than that. If fewer than seven percussionists are available, the following is a list of the instruments, from most important to least:

- Shaker
- Snare Drum
- Timpani
- Suspended Cymbal
- Mallet Percussion
- Bass Drum
- Tom-tom

Take care to ensure that the chords formed by the flute, oboe, 1st clarinet and alto sax beginning in measure 5 are balanced, adjusting the number of players as needed. The crescendos in the percussion in bars 57 and 61 should be as dramatic as possible.

I hope you and your ensemble find *The Pit and the Pendulum* to be a meaningful and worthwhile musical experience.

Michael Story

# The Pit and the Pendulum

FULL SCORE  
Approx. Duration - 3:00

Michael Story (ASCAP)

Moderately slow ♩ = 88

The score is for a full orchestra and includes the following parts:

- Flute
- Oboe
- Bassoon
- B♭ Clarinets (1 and 2)
- B♭ Bass Clarinet
- E♭ Alto Saxophone
- B♭ Tenor Saxophone
- E♭ Baritone Saxophone
- B♭ Trumpets (1 and 2)
- F Horn
- Trombone
- Baritone
- Tuba
- Mallet Percussion (Bells/Chimes)
- Timpani
- Percussion 1 (Snare Drum, Bass Drum)
- Percussion 2 (Suspended Cymbal, Shaker, Tom-Tom)

Key markings include dynamics such as *f*, *mp*, and *mf*, and performance instructions like "Tune: G, A, D" and "Susp. Cym. w/ snare stick". The score is divided into five measures, numbered 1 through 5 at the bottom.

Fl. 10

Ob.

Bsn.

1  
Cls.

2

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

10

1  
Tpts.

2

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Susp. Cym. w/ mallets

*mp* *mf* *mf* *mf* *mf*

*p* *mf*

Fl. *mf* *f*

Ob. *mf* *f*

Bsn. *mf* *f*

1 Cls. *mf* *f*

2 Cls. *mf* *f*

B. Cl. *mf* *f*

A. Sax. *mf* *f*

T. Sax. *mf* *f*

Bar. Sax. *mf* *f*

1 Tpts. *f*

2 Tpts. *f*

Hn. *f*

Tbn. *f*

Bar. *f*

Tuba *f*

Mlt. Perc. *mf* *f*

Timp. *f*

Perc. 1 B.D. *mf* *f*

Perc. 2 *mf*



21

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

1

Cls.

2

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

21

1

Tpts.

2

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Shaker *mf* 21 22 23 24 25

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

1  
Cls.

2

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

1  
Tpts.

2

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2







Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

1  
Cls.

2

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

1  
Tpts.

2

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

*div.*

42

43

44

45

46

47

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

1

Cls.

2

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

47

1

Tpts.

2

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2







70 Faster, with intensity! ♩ = 138

Fl. (cresc.) f

Ob. (cresc.) f

Bsn. (cresc.) f

1 Cls. (cresc.) f

2 Cls. (cresc.) f

B. Cl. (cresc.) f

A. Sax. (cresc.) f

T. Sax. (cresc.) f

Bar. Sax. (cresc.) f

70 Faster, with intensity! ♩ = 138

1 Tpts. (cresc.) f

2 Tpts. (cresc.) f

Hn. (cresc.) f

Tbn. (cresc.) f

Bar. (cresc.) f

Tuba (cresc.) f

Mlt. Perc. Bells f

Timp. (cresc.) f

Perc. 1 (cresc.) f

Perc. 2 (cresc.) f



Fl. *div.*

Ob.

Bsn.

1  
Cls.

2

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

1  
Tpts.

2

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

Fl. 78

Ob.

Bsn.

1 Cls.

2 Cls.

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

1 Tpts. 78

2 Tpts.

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

76 77 78 79

Fl.

Ob.

Bsn.

1  
Cls.

2

B. Cl.

A. Sax.

T. Sax.

Bar. Sax.

1  
Tpts.

2

Hn.

Tbn.

Bar.

Tuba

Mlt. Perc.

Timp.

Perc. 1

Perc. 2

The image shows a page of a musical score for a full orchestra, covering measures 80 through 83. The score is written for various instruments: Flute (Fl.), Oboe (Ob.), Bassoon (Bsn.), Clarinet (Cls.), Bass Clarinet (B. Cl.), Alto Saxophone (A. Sax.), Tenor Saxophone (T. Sax.), Baritone Saxophone (Bar. Sax.), Trumpets (Tpts.), Horns (Hn.), Trombones (Tbn.), Baritone (Bar.), Tuba, Mallet Percussion (Mlt. Perc.), Timpani (Timp.), Percussion 1 (Perc. 1), and Percussion 2 (Perc. 2). The music is in a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature. The score features complex melodic lines for the woodwinds and brass, with a rhythmic accompaniment from the percussion. A large, diagonal red watermark reading 'Preview Only' is superimposed over the entire score.

84

Fl. *mp* *cresc.* *ff*

Ob. *mp* *cresc.* *ff*

Bsn. *mp* *cresc.* *f* *ff*

1 Cls. *mp* *cresc.* *f* *ff*

2 Cls. *mp* *cresc.* *f* *ff*

B. Cl. *mp* *cresc.* *f* *ff*

A. Sax. *mp* *cresc.* *f* *ff*

T. Sax. *mp* *cresc.* *f* *ff*

Bar. Sax. *mp* *cresc.* *f* *ff*

84

1 Tpts. *mp* *cresc.* *ff*

2 Tpts. *mp* *cresc.* *ff*

Hn. *mp* *cresc.* *ff*

Tbn. *mp* *cresc.* *f* *ff*

Bar. *mp* *cresc.* *f* *ff*

Tuba *mp* *cresc.* *f* *ff*

Mlt. Perc. *mp* *cresc.* *ff*

Timp. *mp* *cresc.* *f* *ff*

Perc. 1 *mp* *cresc.* *f* *ff*

Perc. 2 *mp* *cresc.* *f* *ff*

*p* *f* *ff* Choke