

RWS VERY BEGINNING BAND SERIES

Grade: 0.5

Conductor Score: RWS-2603-01

Sneak Attack!

Evan VanDoren

RWS

Very Beginning Band Series

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INSTRUMENTATION

Conductor Score	1	F Horn	4
Flute	10	Trombone	6
Oboe	2	Euphonium B.C.	2
B ^b Clarinet	12	Euphonium T.C.	2
B ^b Bass Clarinet	2	Tuba	4
Bassoon	2	Mallet Percussion: Bells	4
E ^b Alto Saxophone	8	Timpani	1
B ^b Tenor Saxophone	2	Percussion 1: Snare Drum, Bass Drum	3
E ^b Baritone Saxophone	2	Percussion 2: Brake Drum, Wood Blocks (2)	2
B ^b Trumpet	10	Percussion 3: Concert Toms (2)	2

PROGRAM NOTE

Sneak Attack! is an energetic and cinematic piece for a beginner band that captures the tension, excitement, and precision of a well-timed strike. Using only the first six notes typically learned by young musicians, the piece challenges students to shape phrases, control tone, and create drama through dynamic contrast. Alternating between moments of quiet suspense and bold impact, it introduces both subito and gradual dynamic changes, offering a thrilling performance experience while developing essential ensemble skills like balance, control, and listening.

NOTES TO CONDUCTOR

In *Sneak Attack!*, success relies on clarity, control, and contrast. Focus on making dynamics unmistakable — quiet moments should feel tense and controlled, while fortés should be bold but balanced. Introduce subito changes early by isolating them during warm-ups, then incorporate them into the context. Encourage students to shape every phrase, even within a limited range, so the music always has direction and energy. Keep a steady tempo to maintain intensity, and emphasize posture, breath, and ensemble awareness to project confidence at any volume. Value control and precision as much as power — the true drama of this piece comes from how effectively those contrasts are executed.

Percussion scoring is intentionally flexible to suit ensembles of any size. The only essential parts are Percussion 1 (Snare Drum and Bass Drum). The mallet part, written for Bells, may be doubled or substituted with any mallet instrument such as Marimba, Xylophone, or Vibraphone. The Timpani line is doubled by Percussion 3 (two Concert Toms), and either part may be performed independently if needed — for example, Concert Toms alone when Timpani aren't available. The Brake Drum part can be doubled or replaced with any loud, non-pitched metallic sound.

Please visit my composer page at rwsmusic.com to connect!



ABOUT THE COMPOSER



Evan VanDoren is an in-demand music composer regularly commissioned to create engaging & award-winning music for marching bands and concert ensembles at all skill levels. Evan's music is regularly performed around the country, including premiere performances at the Texas Music Educators Association Convention and the Midwest Band and Orchestra Clinic. In 2025, Evan was recognized as a National Finalist for The American Prize in Composition for his works, *Luminosities* & *Prophetic Dances*.

Evan serves as the brass composer & arranger for the Santa Clara Vanguard Drum and Bugle Corps, based in Santa Clara, California. Additionally, Evan is an active clinician who has presented at various events, including Drum Corps International, the Music Educators National Convention, the Texas Bandmasters Association, the Texas Music Educators Association, and Music for All. He regularly consults with music programs across the nation.

Before devoting his life to creating music, Evan was a band director at Cedar Park High School in Cedar Park, Texas. During that time, the band was awarded multiple marching state championships and national recognition. He received a Bachelor's in Music Education with Honors from Butler University in Indianapolis, Indiana. Currently, he lives in Cedar Park, Texas, with his wife, Katie, daughters Anna & Sara, and their dog, Cooper.

SNEAK ATTACK!

Conductor Score

RWS-2603-00

Evan VanDoren

(ASCAP)

Allegro moderato ♩ = 116

The score is for a 4/4 piece in B-flat major, marked 'Allegro moderato' with a tempo of 116 beats per minute. It features a woodwind section (Flute, Oboe, B♭ Clarinet, B♭ Bass Clarinet, Bassoon, E♭ Alto Saxophone, B♭ Tenor Saxophone, E♭ Baritone Saxophone), a brass section (B♭ Trumpet, F Horn, Trombone, Euphonium, Tuba), and a percussion section (Mallet Percussion Bells, Timpani G, D, Snare Drum, Bass Drum, Brake Drum, Wood Blocks, Concert Toms). The woodwinds and brass play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, starting with a forte (*f*) dynamic and transitioning to piano (*p*) at measure 3. The percussion section provides a steady accompaniment, with the Snare Drum and Bass Drum playing eighth notes, the Brake Drum playing eighth notes, and the Wood Blocks playing a rhythmic pattern. The score is divided into measures 1 through 7, with dynamics marked as *f* and *p*.

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SNEAK ATTACK!

10

Fl. *f* *f* *f p* stomp!

Ob. *f* *f* *f p* stomp!

Cl. *f* *f* *f p* stomp!

B. Cl. *f* *f* *f p* stomp!

Bsn. *f* *f* *f p* stomp!

A. Sax. *f* *f* *f p* stomp!

T. Sax. *f* *f* *f p* stomp!

Bar. Sax. *f* *f* *f p* stomp!

10

Tpt. *f* *f* *f p* stomp!

Hn. *f* *f* *f p* stomp!

Tbn. *f* *f* *f p* stomp!

Euph. *f* *f* *f p* stomp!

Tba. *f* *f* *f p* stomp!

Mlts. *f* *f* *f p* stomp!

Timp. *f* *p* *f* *f p* stomp!

Perc. 1 *f* *p* *f* *f p* stomp!

Perc. 2 *f* *f* *f p* stomp!

Perc. 3 *f* *f* *f p* stomp!

8 9 11 12 13 14

27

Fl. *p* *f* *f*

Ob. *p* *f* *f*

Cl. *p* *f* *f*

B Cl. *p* *f* *f*

Bsn. *p* *f* *f*

A. Sax. *p* *f* *f*

T. Sax. *p* *f* *f*

Bar. Sax. *p* *f* *f*

Tpt. *p* *f* *f*

Hn. *p* *f* *f*

Tbn. *p* *f* *f*

Euph. *p* *f* *f*

Tba. *p* *f* *f*

Mlts. *p* *f* *f*

Timp. *p* *f* *p* *f*

Perc. 1 *p* *f* *p* *f*

Perc. 2 *p* *f* *f*

Perc. 3 *p* *f* *f*

22 23 24 *f* 25 *p* 26 *f* 27 28

SNEAK ATTACK!

Fl. *stomp!*
f p f

Ob. *stomp!*
f p f

Cl. *stomp!*
f p f

B Cl. *stomp!*
f p f

Bsn. *stomp!*
f p f

A. Sax. *stomp!*
f p f

T. Sax. *stomp!*
f p f

Bar. Sax. *stomp!*
f p f

Tpt. *stomp!*
f p f

Hn. *stomp!*
f p f

Tbn. *stomp!*
f p f

Euph. *stomp!*
f p f

Tba. *stomp!*
f p f

Mlts. *stomp!*
f p f

Timp. *stomp!*
f p f

Perc. 1 *stomp!*
f p f

Perc. 2 *stomp!*
f W.B.

Perc. 3 *stomp!*
f p f

29 30 31 32 33 34 35

SNEAK ATTACK!

37

Fl. *f* *p* *f*

Ob. *f* *p* *f*

Cl. *f* *p* *f*

B Cl. *f* *p* *f*

Bsn. *f* *p* *f*

A. Sax. *f* *p* *f*

T. Sax. *f* *p* *f*

Bar. Sax. *f* *p* *f*

37

Tpt. *f* *p* *f*

Hn. *f* *p* *f*

Tbn. *f* *p* *f*

Euph. *f* *p* *f*

Tba. *f* *p* *f*

Mlts. *f* *f* dampen

Timp. *f* *p* *f* dampen

Perc. 1 *f* *p* *f* dampen

Perc. 2 *f* *p* *f*

Perc. 3 *f* *p* *f* dampen

36

37

38

39

40

41