

Eric M Schroeder

What Could Have Been

For Concert Band

Grade 2.5

3 MIN 15 SEC

Program Note

"What Could Have Been" is a piece about regrets. Throughout life, we are constantly privy to situations that could have panned out a certain way, but didn't. Whether it be a lost friendship, a breakup, or an opportunity left on the table, we all have those moments.

This piece reflects that regret in its opening, but then envisions the "grass is greener" life that we often percieve lies on the other end of that choice or decision. It empathizes with human nature to assume that life might have been better if one choice had been made differently.

We ultimately end with a return to the opening theme, but this time with an acceptance that life goes on. There is no way to know the outcome of decisions not made, and to dwell on the people we are not is to forget who we are now. Our decisions shape us, and sometimes bad decisions shape us for a better future. This piece is dedicated to my own regretted decisions and the choice to be thankful for every decision that has made me who I am, and I dedicate it to anyone else who feels empowered to let go of regrets and live for the here and now.

Educator's Note

While an emotionally resonant piece in its own right, "What Could Have Been" is also a valuable piece for several educational concepts and would be perfect for a late middle school/easy high school piece. The following concepts are intentionally baked into the piece.

Part Independence

5/4 Time Signature

Rhythm - Quarter Note Triplets

Independent Dynamics

INSTRUMENTATION

Flute
Oboe
Clarinet 1
Clarinet 2
Bass Clarinet
Alto Saxophone 1
Alto Saxophone 2
Tenor Saxophone
Baritone Saxophone
Trumpet 1
Trumpet 2
French Horn
Trombone 1
Trombone 2
Euphonium
Tuba

Suspended Cymbal
Bass Drum
Glockenspiel
Marimba 1
Marimba 2

(The Purchase of this score and parts
includes the license to reproduce the
parts as needed for your ensemble)

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5/4 Adagio $\text{♩} = 78$

Flute
Oboe
Clarinet 1
Clarinet 2
Bass Clarinet
Alto Saxophone 1
Alto Saxophone 2
Tenor Saxophone
Baritone Saxophone
Trumpet 1
Trumpet 2
French Horn
Trombone 1
Trombone 2
Euphonium
Tuba
Suspended Cymbal
Bass Drum
Glockenspiel
Marimba 1
Marimba 2

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Musical score for measures 12 through 22. The score is arranged in a standard orchestral layout with the following parts from top to bottom:

- Fl. (Flute)
- Ob. (Oboe)
- Cl. 1 (Clarinet 1)
- Cl. 2 (Clarinet 2)
- B. Cl. (Bass Clarinet)
- Alto Sax. 1 (Alto Saxophone 1)
- Alto Sax. 2 (Alto Saxophone 2)
- Ten. Sax. (Tenor Saxophone)
- Bari. Sax. (Baritone Saxophone)
- Tpt. 1 (Trumpet 1)
- Tpt. 2 (Trumpet 2)
- Hn. (Horn)
- Tbn. 1 (Trombone 1)
- Tbn. 2 (Trombone 2)
- Euph. (Euphonium)
- Tba. (Tuba)
- Sus Cym (Suspended Cymbal)
- B. D. (Bass Drum)
- Glock. (Glockenspiel)
- Mar. 1 (Maracas 1)
- Mar. 2 (Maracas 2)

Measure numbers 12 through 22 are indicated at the top of the page. Dynamic markings such as *mf*, *mp*, *f*, and *p* are present throughout the score.