

## **Beyond the Forest's Edge**

Fannin Musical Productions

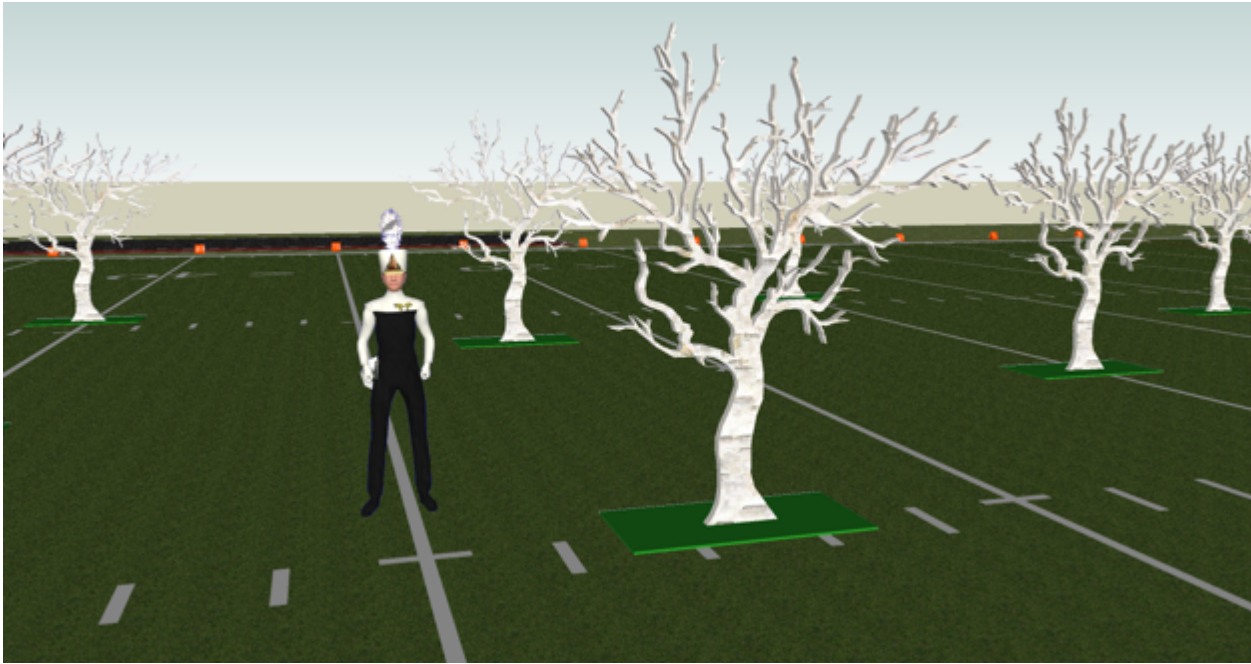
### **Overview**

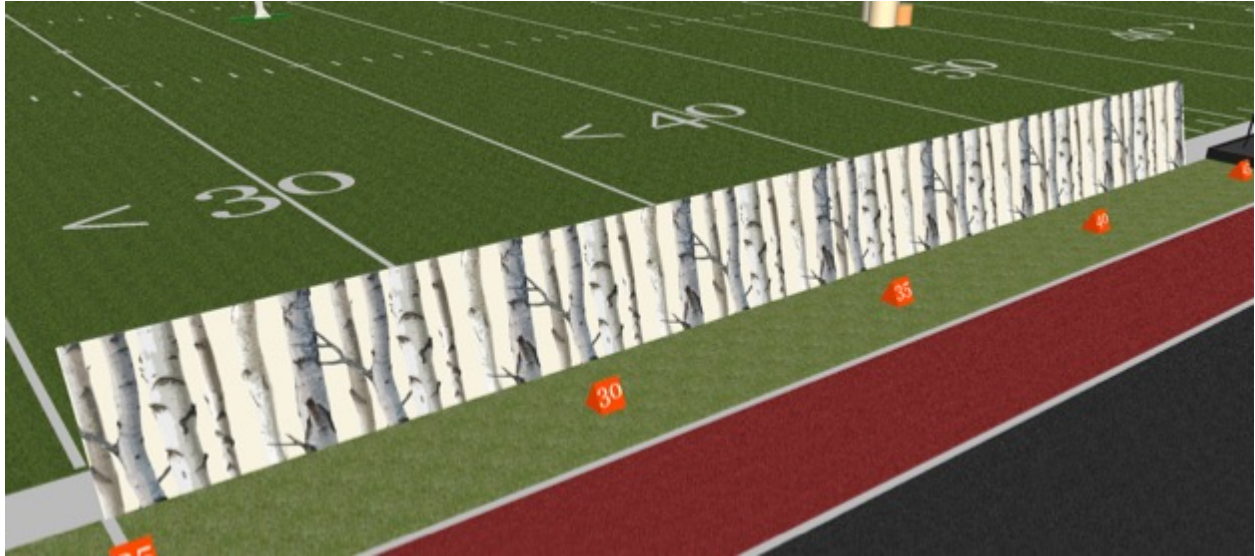
*Beyond the Forest's Edge* is a contemporary retelling of one of the oldest and most meaningful of folk tales. Audiences, judges, and students alike respond to the timeless tale of Little Red's adventure off the beaten path and her escape from the Wolf. Featuring familiar music and an unforgettable storyline, *Beyond the Forest's Edge* is a proven winner.

Set Design



Out story takes place in the stark black and white of a birch forest. Skeletal trees set a beautiful, yet potentially threatening mood.





Along the front sideline, a large screen serve as staging areas for equipment changes.

Center stage, three cylindrical, tiered stages evoke tree stumps and provide a staging point for key musical solos.



Costume and Flag Design

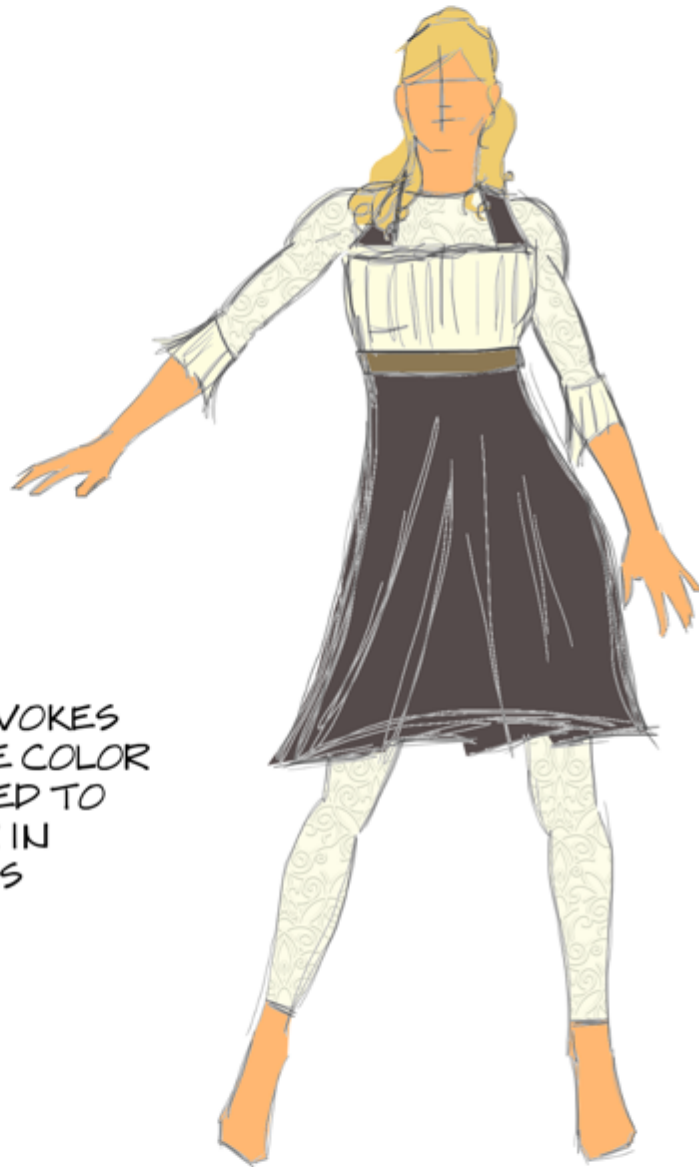




## GUARD CONCEPT SKETCH

1 OR 2 PIECE, 3/4  
SLEEVE BODYSUIT  
WITH PRINTED  
LACE DESIGN,  
OVERLAID WITH  
EMPIRE-WAIST  
DRESS

FEMININE DESIGN EVOKES  
CHARACTER, SIMPLE COLOR  
PALETTE ALLOWS RED TO  
ACT AS 'POP' COLOR IN  
ACCESSORIES, FLAGS







## 'LITTLE RED' CHARACTER CONCEPT SKETCH



ADDITION OF RED  
CAPE & HOOD MAKES  
CHARACTER 'POP'  
AGAINST STARK  
BLACK AND WHITE OF  
SET & GUARD DESIGN



POWERED BY  
**BAND SHOPPE**



## 'THE WOLF' CHARACTER CONCEPT SKETCH

THE MUSICAL SOLOIST  
PORTRAYING THE WOLF CAN  
BE COSTUMED MANY WAYS--  
HERE, A WOLF SKIN CLOAK  
ALLOWS THE PLAYER TO  
QUICKLY ASSUME THE ROLE

OTHER OPTIONS INCLUDE  
USE OF A FUR PLUME AND/OR  
SASH OVER THE UNIFORM





OPENER:  
'PICKING FLOWERS'

BALLAD:  
'INTO THE WOODS'

CLOSER:  
'WHAT BIG EYES  
YOU HAVE...'

BEYOND THE FOREST'S EDGE: FLAG CONCEPTS

BEGINNING OF CLOSER COULD BE WEAPONS,  
END SHOW WITH OVERSIZED, RED SWING FLAG

**FMP**  
Fannin Musical Productions

POWERED BY  
**BAND SHOPPE**

Flags use color to symbolically represent the conflict between youth, innocence, and life ['Little Red'] and cold, forbidding death ['The Wolf'].

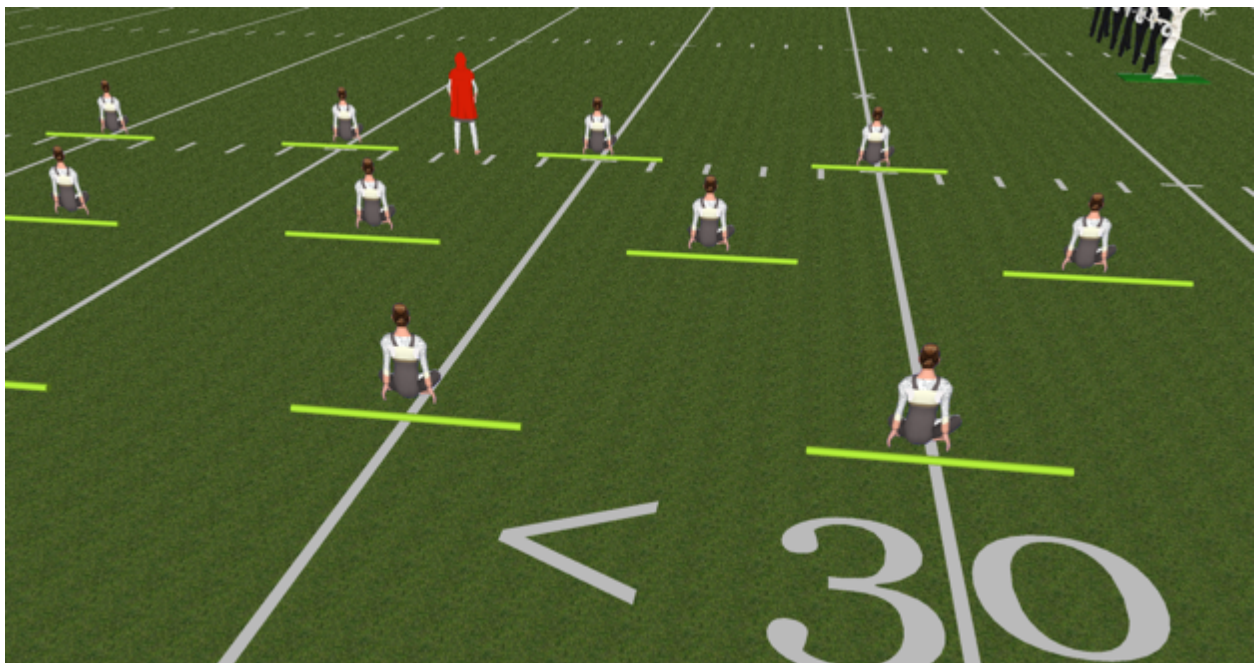




## Opener Effects



As the show opens, musicians are semi-hidden in the Side B 'forest' while the guard sits on Side A beside their opener flags. Standing out and naturally drawing the eye due to her bright coloration against the black and white set design, Little Red waits for the show to begin.

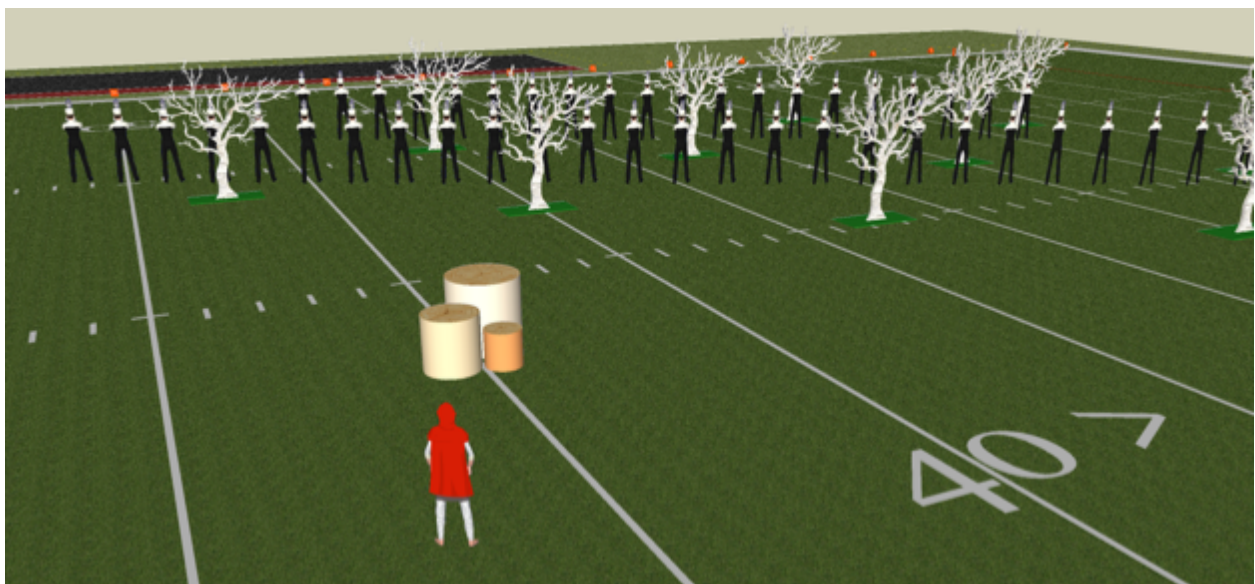


The musical program begins with a cadenza-like solo meant to convey the innocent character of Little Red picking flowers on the forest's edge. [Here, the soloist also portrays the character of Little Red, but the character could also be performed by a guard soloist separate from the musical soloists.] As Little Red makes her way slowly through the seated guard they begin to rise and pull the flowered silk with them as though literally picking flowers.



The soloist is sketched here as a flautist, but the solo could be re-voiced in another instrument to suit the needs and strengths of your ensemble.

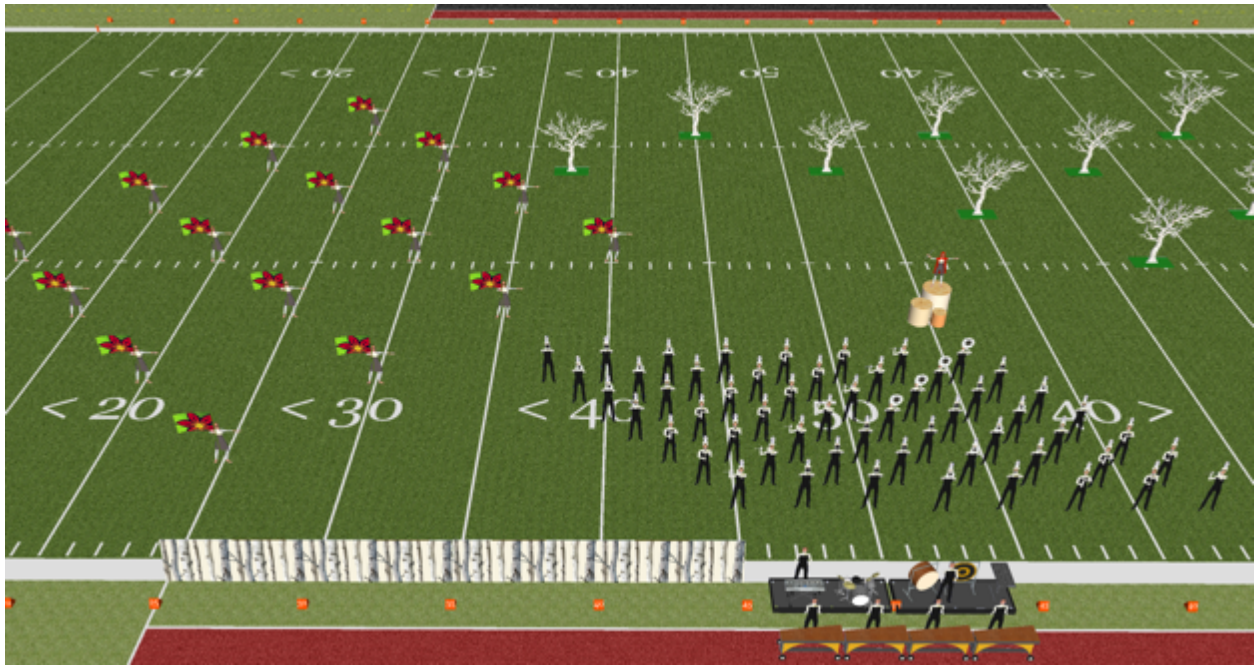
As her solo comes to an end, Little Red reaches Side B where the rest of the musical ensemble begins to move in the trees. She watches, curious about the mysterious forest.



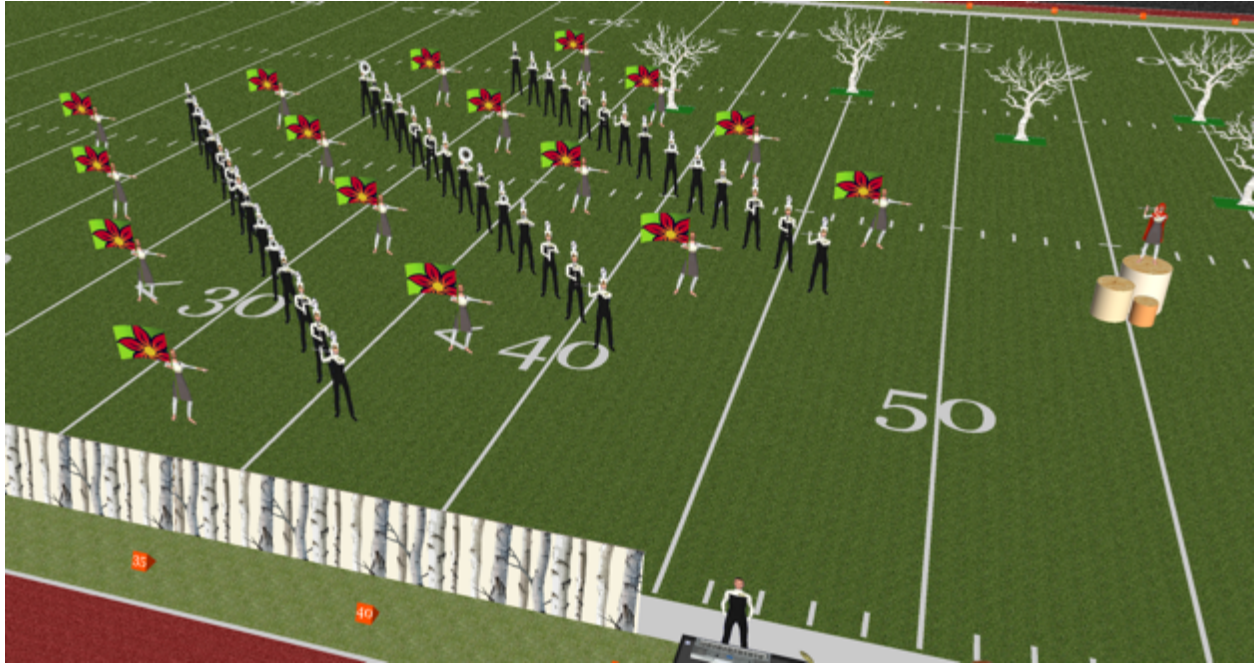




As the music begins to build, the musicians drill carries them out of the forest and past Little Red who mounts the stage and watches the passing drill with curiosity and amazement. Meanwhile, the rest of the guard dances and spins individually towards the first impact form.





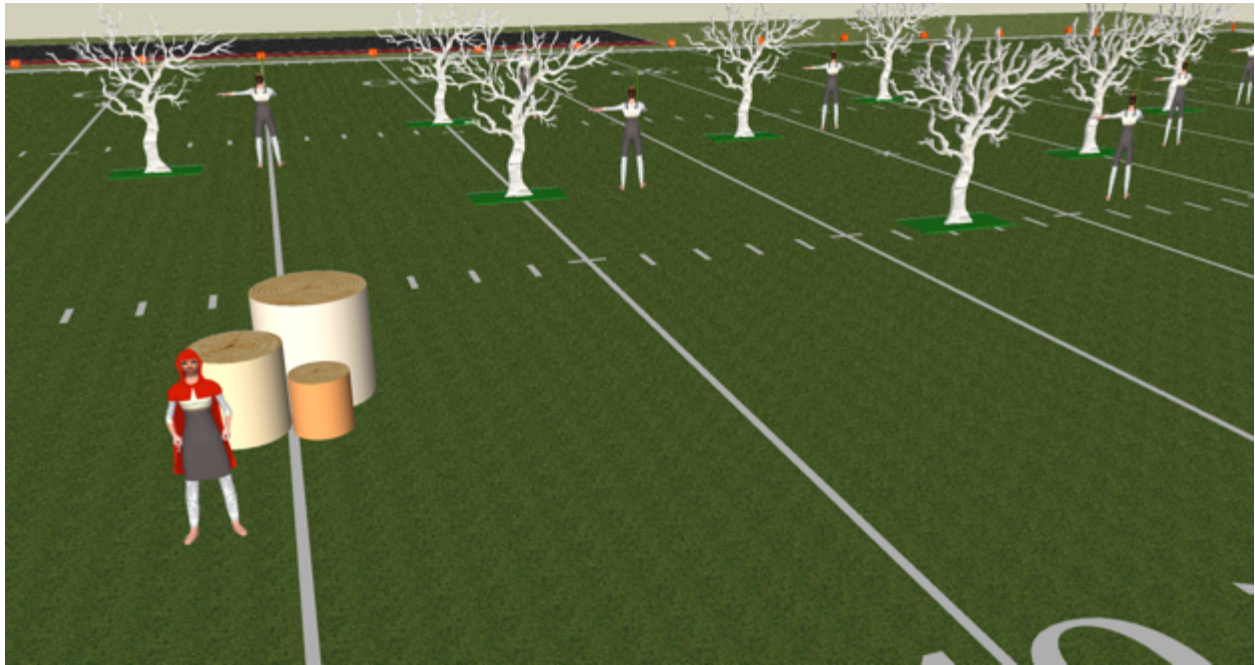


After the opening impact, Little Red continues to solo from the raised stage, engaging the rest of the ensemble in a musical/visual dialogue and building towards an even fuller statement of the main theme.



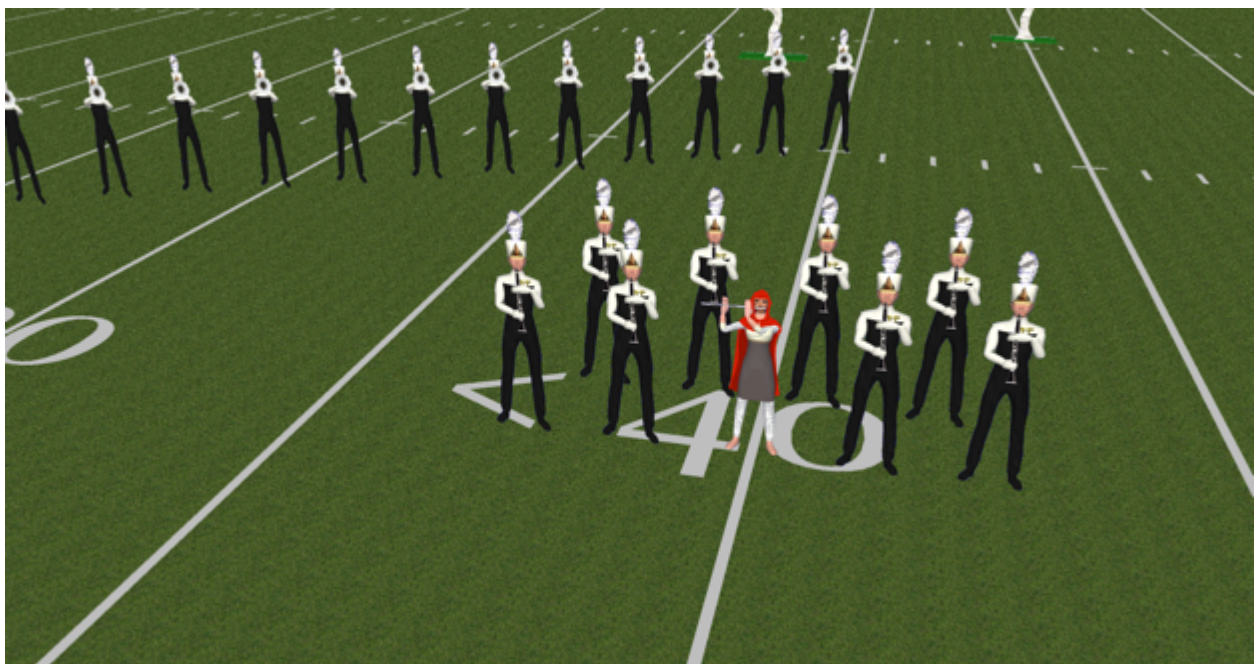


## Ballad Effects



After a brief applause break, the opener musically and visually transitions to the ballad. The guard moves back into the forest, symbolizing the first tentative explorations of this new environment, providing for an equipment change, and staging the next visual idea. Meanwhile, Little Red climbs down from the stage and begins to move into the main musical ensemble as they restage for the ballad.

The ballad begins to build with a small ensemble, which Little Red could join into. Sketched here as a clarinet choir, this moment could be rescored to suit the needs and strengths of your ensemble.







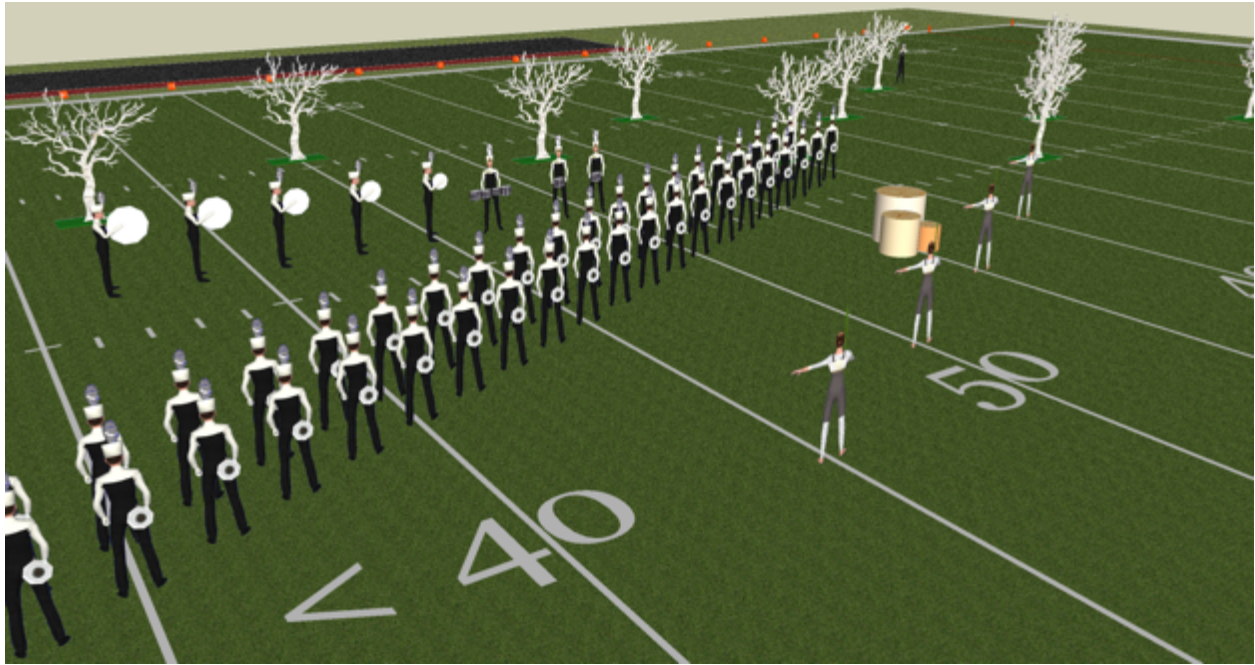
Meanwhile, the guard begins to introduce the new silk, featuring birch trees and mimicking the 'forest' out of which they begin to emerge.

Ultimately building towards a huge musical statement with Little Red front and center.





As the ballad transitions into the closer, the drill evolves into long forms drawing the eye back towards the forest where a distant soloist is partially obscured by the forest, drawing the viewer in for the introduction of a new character in the next movement.



## Closer Effects

As the Closer begins, an eerie mood is established through percussion and optional pre-recorded voiceovers referencing our new character: *'What big eyes you have...'* etc. Pausing periodically to play brief bits of solo, the Wolf makes his way to the raised stage prop.

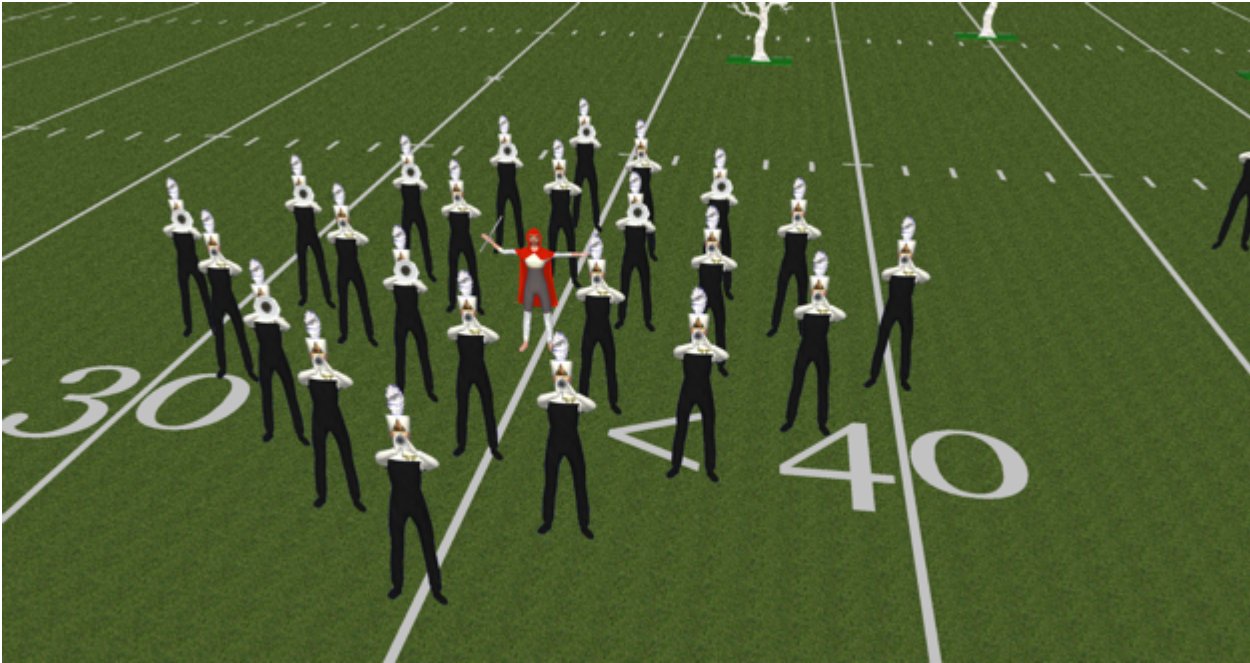


Sketched here as a trombonist, the Wolf could be represented by many different instruments to meet the needs and strengths of your ensemble. On Side A, part of the guard begins to emerge from behind the front screen with the closer silk, a reference to the repeating narration *'...what big eyes you have...'*

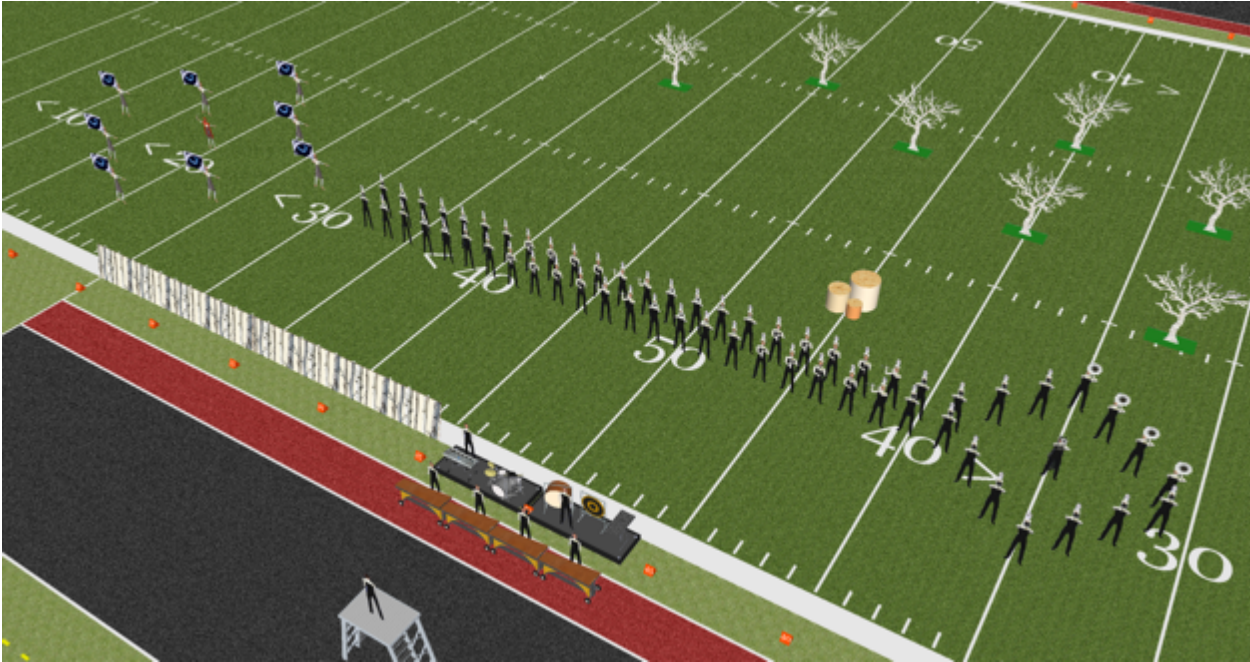




Meanwhile, Little Red finds herself surrounded by another pod of musicians playing the earlier motif, but now twisted and menacing.



Building toward a set which establishes the dichotomy of the two characters for the viewer.





After a brief musical transition, the drill then carries Red and the Wolf to center stage and moves the rest of the ensemble into pairs for a choreographed fight scene.



If the guard is using weapons, this would also be the perfect time to stage them in pairs with those using the closer silk to further represent the conflict.





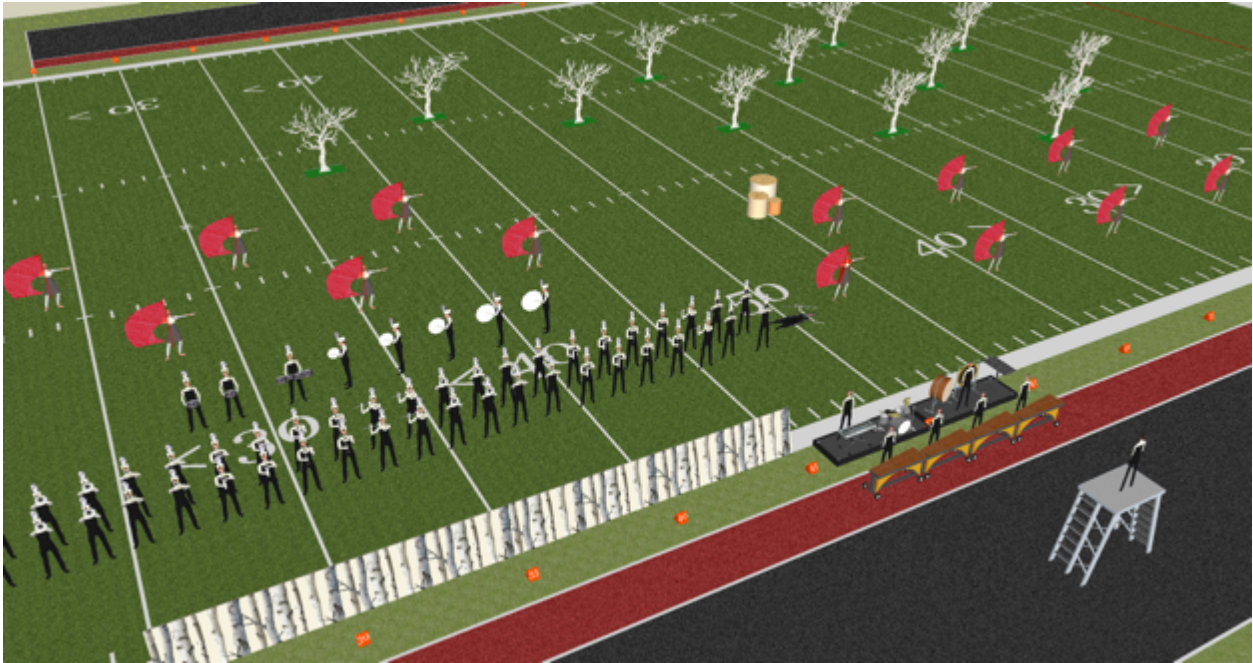
The fight scene reaches its climax with Red overcoming the Wolf and kicking him to the ground.



Meanwhile, the entire guard translates in waves to an oversized, bright red flag while the musical ensemble builds for a final, triumphant statement of the main themes... lead by Little Red while the Wolf remains where he fell.



A high-tempo push to the end brings the show to a final, thrilling conclusion as the field is flooded with the color red and the musical ensemble, parked close the front, makes maximum musical impact.



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