

**Now Shall My Head  
Be Lifted Up  
Above My Enemies  
(DANNY VELASCO'S TESTIMONY)**

*programmatic music for brass quintet  
with video slide presentation by  
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*This piece is the true story of Danny Velasco, told in his own words, as follows:*

“My life just continued to get worse and worse and worse. & I ended up living in the streets. I started developing a lot of phobias, & just stuff that comes from malnutrition and drugs. And I developed a lot of voices that began to scream in my head: One voice that just accused me, constantly accusing me and condemning me. Another voice that spoke in my head just spoke filthy language, constantly screaming filthy language in my head. Another voice just laughed & laughed & laughed & laughed uncontrollably in my head. & I began to talk to these voices, talk back to these voices. & I was just a crazy man walking the streets of New York, riddled with phobias & all kinds of fears, & these voices that screamed in my head, & that I was talking to. So if you walked by me on the street (you’ve probably walked by people like that everyday in New York) I was the most hopeless guy on the planet. I finally went into a hospital because I was dying on the street, & I didn’t want to die on the street. I wanted to die in a hospital. I had hepatitis A, hepatitis B, hepatitis C now. They immediately injected me with something that knocked me out, & when I woke up I was laying in this hospital bed, pretty confused, not really knowing where I was at. & these voices just started raging in my head again, just screaming & screaming. & in the midst of all of those voices for one moment I heard a sweet little voice that said, “The day you call on the name of the Lord, He’s gonna set you free.” And that’s the moment that I just screamed out with everything in me, “Oh Jesus help me! God help me! Jesus! You’re my only hope.” And it was at that moment that the Spirit of the Living God just swept into that hospital room, and it just overwhelmed me. It was as if He was all around me. & I knew that He was touching me and healing me. & all the fears and all the phobias just dropped away from me. & at that moment I knew that God was real, & that He had heard me, & that He loved me. & I knew that I would never be the same again.”

*Each of the five instruments in this piece is a voice in Danny’s testimony: the tuba is the cursing voice, the trombone is the accusing voice, the muted second trumpet is the laughing voice, the first trumpet is Danny’s voice. and the horn is the voice of God.*

SCORE

# Now Shall My Head Be Lifted Up Above My Enemies

(DANNY VELASCO'S TESTIMONY)

duration: 8 min. 30 sec.

William Vollinger ©2007 (ASCAP)

*This piece should be either performed with slides as indicated in the score, or if not have the entire text on the preceding page read aloud before the performance as well as printed in the program. PowerPoint or Keynote formats for the slides may be obtained by contacting the composer at [williamvollinger@aol.com](mailto:williamvollinger@aol.com)*

SLIDE 1  
Now shall  
my head..

SLIDE 2  
Danny Velasco's  
testimony

♩ = 112

Trumpet in B $\flat$  1

Trumpet in B $\flat$  2

Horn in F

Trombone

Tuba

Musical score for the first system, measures 1-7. It includes staves for Trumpet in B $\flat$  1, Trumpet in B $\flat$  2, Horn in F, Trombone, and Tuba. Dynamics include *f* and *mf*. The word "calling" is written under the Horn staff.

SLIDE 3  
My life  
continued..

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

Musical score for the second system, measures 8-14. It includes staves for Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2, Hn., Tbn., and Tuba. Dynamics include *mf* and *f*. A triplet of 3 is indicated in the Tbn. and Tuba staves.

SLIDE 4  
And I  
ended up..

14

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

*mp* lonely

SLIDE 5  
I started  
developing..

21

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

SLIDE 6  
& I also  
developed..

27

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

*f*

*mf*

straight mute *f* scary

*f* scary

*f* scary

SLIDE 7  
One voice  
that just..

33

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

*mp* ensuing series of reactions

harsh

SLIDE 8  
Constantly  
accusing..

37

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

*f*

*mf*

*f*

SLIDE 9  
Another voice  
that spoke..

SLIDE 10  
Constantly  
screaming..

42

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

*mf*

*mp*

*f gross*

3

SLIDE 11  
Another voice  
just laughed..

47

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

*mf*

*f*

*mf* *mocking*

SLIDE 12  
Laughed  
uncontrollably..

52

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

*mf*

SLIDE 13  
I began to  
talk to..

55

Musical score for measures 55-58. The score is for five instruments: Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2, Hn., Tbn., and Tuba. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Tpt. 1 has a melodic line starting in measure 56 with a *mf* dynamic, featuring a triplet in measure 57. Tbn. has a melodic line starting in measure 55 with a *mf* dynamic, featuring a long slur over measures 56-58 and a *f* dynamic in measure 58. Tuba has a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in measure 55 with a *f* dynamic. Tpt. 2 and Hn. are silent.

59

Musical score for measures 59-62. The score is for five instruments: Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2, Hn., Tbn., and Tuba. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Tpt. 1 has a melodic line starting in measure 59 with a *f* dynamic, featuring a long slur over measures 59-62 and a triplet in measure 62. Tuba has a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes in measures 59-62 with a *f* dynamic. Tpt. 2, Hn., and Tbn. are silent.



SLIDE 14  
And I was just  
a crazy man..

62

Musical score for measures 62-64. The score is for five instruments: Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2, Hn., Tbn., and Tuba. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Tpt. 1 is silent. Tpt. 2 enters in measure 63 with a melodic line starting on G4, marked with a forte *f* dynamic. Hn. is silent. Tbn. enters in measure 62 with a melodic line starting on G2, marked with a forte *f* dynamic. Tuba plays a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes starting on G2, also marked with a forte *f* dynamic.

65

Musical score for measures 65-67. The score is for five instruments: Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2, Hn., Tbn., and Tuba. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Tpt. 1 is silent. Tpt. 2 enters in measure 65 with a melodic line starting on G4, marked with a forte *f* dynamic. Hn. is silent. Tbn. enters in measure 65 with a melodic line starting on G2, marked with a forte *f* dynamic. Tuba plays a rhythmic accompaniment of eighth notes starting on G2, also marked with a forte *f* dynamic.



SLIDE 16  
I was the most  
hopeless guy..

Musical score for Slide 16, measures 74-76. The score is for five instruments: Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2, Hn., Tbn., and Tuba. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Measure 74: Tpt. 1 plays a melodic line starting on G4, moving up to B4, with dynamics *f* and *desperate*, and a hairpin crescendo leading to *ff*. Tpt. 2, Hn., and Tuba are silent. Measure 75: Tpt. 2 plays a triplet of eighth notes (G4, A4, B4) with dynamics *f* and *crazy*. Tbn. and Tuba play a triplet of eighth notes (G2, F2, E2) with dynamics *f* and *crazy*. Measure 76: Tpt. 1 has a whole rest. Tpt. 2 plays a melodic line starting on G4, moving up to B4, with dynamics *f* and *crazy*. Tbn. and Tuba play a melodic line starting on G2, moving up to B2, with dynamics *f* and *crazy*. There are accents (>) on the final notes of measures 75 and 76.

SLIDE 17  
(picture  
of face)

Musical score for Slide 17, measures 77-79. The score is for five instruments: Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2, Hn., Tbn., and Tuba. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Measure 77: Tpt. 1 has a whole rest. Tpt. 2 plays a melodic line starting on G4, moving up to B4, with dynamics *f* and *crazy*. Tbn. and Tuba play a melodic line starting on G2, moving up to B2, with dynamics *f* and *crazy*. Measure 78: Tpt. 1 has a whole rest. Tpt. 2 plays a melodic line starting on G4, moving up to B4, with dynamics *f* and *crazy*. Tbn. and Tuba play a melodic line starting on G2, moving up to B2, with dynamics *f* and *crazy*. Measure 79: Tpt. 1 has a whole rest. Tpt. 2 plays a melodic line starting on G4, moving up to B4, with dynamics *f* and *crazy*. Tbn. and Tuba play a melodic line starting on G2, moving up to B2, with dynamics *f* and *crazy*. There are accents (>) on the final notes of measures 78 and 79.

80

Musical score for measures 80-82. The score is for five instruments: Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2, Hn., Tbn., and Tuba. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Measure 80 features a rest for Tpt. 1 and Tbn., and a triplet of eighth notes for Tpt. 2. Measure 81 features a rest for Tpt. 1 and Tbn., and a quarter note for Tpt. 2. Measure 82 features a rest for Tpt. 1 and Tbn., and a quarter note for Tpt. 2. The Tbn. part has a flat (b) in measure 81. The Tuba part has a flat (b) in measure 81. There are dynamic markings (>) under the Tuba part in measures 80 and 82.

83

Musical score for measures 83-85. The score is for five instruments: Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2, Hn., Tbn., and Tuba. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Measure 83 features a rest for Tpt. 1 and Tbn., and a quarter note for Tpt. 2. Measure 84 features a rest for Tpt. 1 and Tbn., and a quarter note for Tpt. 2. Measure 85 features a rest for Tpt. 1 and Tbn., and a quarter note for Tpt. 2. The Tbn. part has a flat (b) in measure 84. The Tuba part has a flat (b) in measure 84. There are dynamic markings (>) under the Tuba part in measures 83 and 85.

SLIDE 19  
I finally  
went into..

86

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

*mf* fading

*p*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

SLIDE 20  
(picture of  
horn & bed)

92

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

*mp*

*mf* calling

*mp*

*mp*

98

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

*mp*

*mp*

*mp*

SLIDE 21  
 (picture of  
 hospital monitor)

105

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

*mp exhausted*

3

SLIDE 22  
I had  
hepatitis A..

112

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

*pp*

SLIDE 23  
They immediately  
injected me..

118

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

*p*

*p* gradually building

SLIDE 24  
& when I  
woke up..

124

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

*p* *mf* gradually building

*mp* gradually building *mf*

*mp* *mf*

129

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

*f* *ff*

*mf*

*f* *ff*

*f* *ff*



SLIDE 25  
& these voices  
just started..

133

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

SLIDE 26  
(picture of  
rows of faces)

137

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

SLIDE 27  
& in the midst  
of all these..

140

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

*mf* tender

SLIDE 28  
& that's the  
moment that..

145

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

*mf*

*f*

crying out

*ff*

153

Musical score for measures 153-158. The score is for five instruments: Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2, Hn., Tbn., and Tuba. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The Tpt. 1 part has a melodic line with slurs and accents. The other instruments have rests.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

SLIDE 29  
& it was at  
that moment..

159

Musical score for measures 159-164. The score is for five instruments: Tpt. 1, Tpt. 2, Hn., Tbn., and Tuba. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The Tpt. 1 part has a melodic line with slurs and accents. The Hn. part has a melodic line with slurs and accents. The Tbn. and Tuba parts have rests. The dynamic marking *mf* is present in the Hn. part.

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

*mf*

SLIDE 30  
& it just  
overwhelmed me..

164

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

*mf* *tender*

SLIDE 31  
& I knew He  
was touching..

172

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

SLIDE 32  
(picture of golden face)

180

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

*ff*

*mp*

SLIDE 33  
(picture of hand reaching to star)

188

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

*mp*

SLIDE 34  
& at that  
moment I knew..

196

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

*non sord. mp*

*mp*

SLIDE 35  
& that He  
had heard me..

205

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

*mp*

SLIDE 36  
& that He  
loved me..

213

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

SLIDE 37  
& I knew I  
would never..

220

Tpt. 1

*happy* *mf*

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

SLIDE 38  
be the same  
again..

SLIDE 39  
(color picture  
of choir)

225

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

*f*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

*mf*

calling

SLIDE 40  
(blue picture  
with Danny)

231

Tpt. 1

Tpt. 2

Hn.

Tbn.

Tuba

*mf* calm

*mf* calm

calm

*mf* calm

*mf* calm