

The Last Word

Patrick R. F. Blakley

L.A.F. (Loud as heck!)

(All follow conductor)

The score consists of three staves: Snareline, Tenorline, and Bassline. Each staff is in 4/4 time and contains a single note on the third line of the staff. The notes are marked with a forte dynamic (*fff*) and a 'down slow' instruction. The Snareline note is marked with *fff*^B, the Tenorline note with *fff*, and the Bassline note with *fff*^R. Each note has an accent (>) above it and a fermata-like symbol below it.

This exercise is designed to let performers listen to the environment around them. Use this exercise at the end of the on-field warmup, it should be the last thing played before walking into set #1. By playing one note as loud as possible (together) the arena or dome will reverberate or even echo the note before it dissipates. Performers should actively listen very carefully to the note's full decay to understand how the future notes of the actual show will react in a similar way. This is the final opportunity to learn some valuable information before performing. This is also a great way to hype up the performers and get the energy right by just being loud! Enjoy this strategic single note, but don't forget its purpose, listen very carefully to the environment around you!