EXCERPTS & ORIGINAL MUSIC SCORE

from the

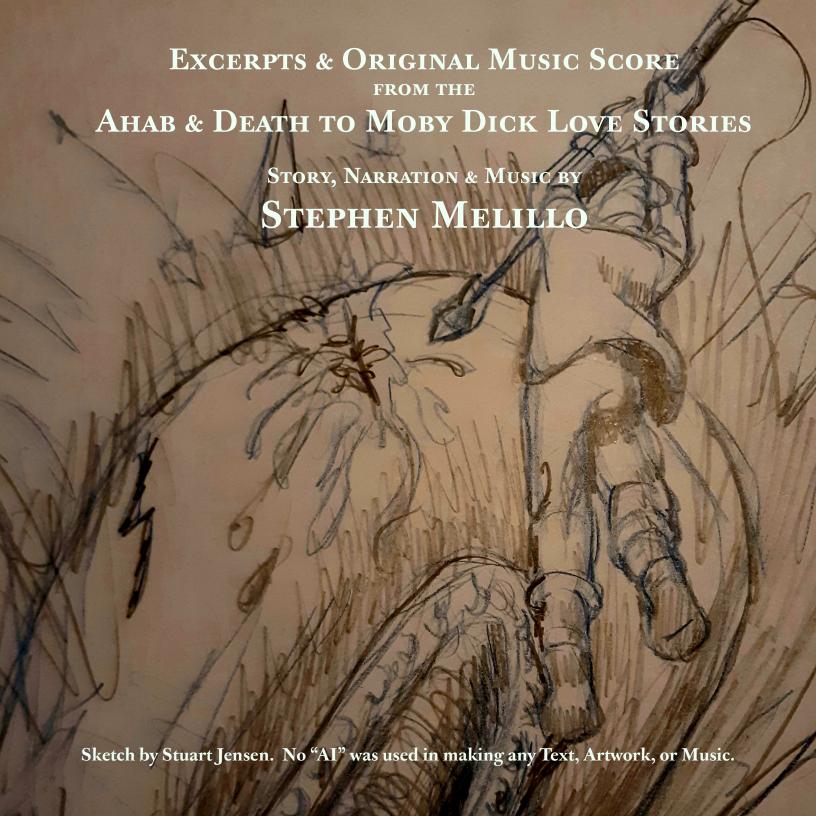
AHAB &

DEATH TO MOBY DICK

LOVE STORIES

A Thirty beat the state of the

STORY, NARRATION & MUSIC BY
STEPHEN MELILLO



THOUGHTS on this collection.

Please by all means, get the books. They are a Journey of the Heart, Mind & Soul.

Though many independent Artists can well relate to these thoughts, such musing may seem "new" to the average, hard-working individual who simply wants to relax, read a good book, or listen to a Story with Music.

I wrote the young-adult novel, "Only for Now" at age 19. It was about a 17-year-old's first year at college. Mine. As I write these notes to you, I am one month away from beginning my 67th year. The Four Books of Mel, as I call them, span my Lifetime across 50 years... and could not have been written without those 50 years of ... "Living".

The Music and excerpts you are about to experience was never intended! Here is the sequence:

1. I need to write a book. (Age 19.)



- 2. Words are insufficient. I need to write Music. (Age 19 to date unknown.)
- **3.** "Only for Now" was published in 2004, then the other books from 2012 to 2019. (A year before the pandemic.)
- **4.** In 2023, I "UN"-published all 4 books. Why? Unkept "promises" from the publishers, and *editing* advice. (*I have had similar experiences in Music.*)
- **5.** In 2023, I went back in Time, revisited, relived, rewrote and republished the 4 novels... all which went live, ironically, on 14 November 2023, when Melville's *Moby Dick* was published in 1851.
- 6. At the suggestion of friends, *Ahab*, *a Love Story* and *Death to Moby Dick*, *a Love Story* became "Audio-books". That difficult process went from 17 May to 14 November 2023. Recording, rewriting, and composing Music, required 15-20 hour days in heat and cold, with barking dogs and fighter aircraft, lawn mowers and blowers, and on and on. All led to #7.
- 7. I had no idea I would write novels, *un*-publish and republish them, that I would become an "actor" and read the 16 hours & 18 minutes of narration, that I would then "hear" the words I wrote across a lifetime, and realize that Music.. *once again*... "called"

Pengeur du Pueple

As a boy, I loved Film Scores. The first sound-track album I owned was John Barry's "Goldfinger." I was twelve. As my collection advanced, I wanted to hear the sound effects and dialogue with the Music. When I could, I'd record the entire sound-track onto cassette and listen for hours.

When friends suggested this album, they encouraged me to create a "Music from" recording. I began that way, but the words, for me, were entwined as a Solo voice in the Music... like an Opera.

(By the way, the Opera, Otello by Rossini, appears in eerily connected ways during these novels.)

When I set out to compose Music for these novels, I took a Jerry Goldsmith approach with the Music. Jerry, my much loved, deeply respected hero Composer, fashioned the way I hear the universe. This, again from the age of twelve. In his sensibilities of Music set to Picture, Music would only be used if absolutely *needed*.

To this I added one more criterion. "The Music would be confined to the White Whale, the Love Stories, and the POW experiences." With that in mind, let us now explore the following excerpts and original Musical works from the two novels.

Thank you for listening & Godspeed!

The ship to the ship

Stephen Melillo Composer

EXCERPTS & ORIGINAL MUSIC SCORE FROM THE AHAB & DEATH TO MOBY DICK LOVE STORIES

Story, Narration & Music by Stephen Melillo

RECORDED & PRODUCED BY STEPHEN MELILLO RUNNING TIME: 3 HOURS, 12 MINUTES

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14. Excerpt, DTMD-Chapter 1-Part 1 Nightmare PTSD1:19
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16. Excerpt, DTMD-Chapter 7 Civil War POWs at Andersonville
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31. Music, Heartbreak & Shipwreck

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34. BONUS TRACK, MUSIC EXCERPT FROM STORMWORKS CHAPTER 2: WENDE	
"AHAB FOR ACTOR & WIND ENSEMBLE", WITH ACTOR, KURTWOOD SMITH	7:25

HEARTBREAK & SHIPWRECK

#1046 IN 4:42, WORDS & MUSIC BY © STEPHEN MELILLO, IGNA 18 AUGUST 2012, 3:33 AM FROM AHAB, A LOVE STORY & ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY BY STEPHEN MELILLO

Have you ever seen a Heart Break?
Heard its crying sound?
Listened to the thunder?
Tell me, was it you
Whose Soul was ripped in two?

Have you ever seen a ship wrecked?
Watched it crushed and torn?
Even when the sky is bright
with Star-Light
Wishing you were never even born?

And then came you Saving all the pieces Splicing Soul with Heart We would start Again... But now you're gone
There is no dawn
AND NIGHT GOES ON AND ON AND ON...

HAVE YOU EVER SEEN A HEART BREAK?
FELT ITS PLEADING CRY?
LOOKED UP TO THE LIGHTNING?
TELL ME, WAS IT YOU?
WHOSE SOUL WAS TORN IN TWO?

I MISS YOU
I MISS YOU
I LOVE YOU
YOU
YOU

REVIEWS

"Tortured by traumas from his time as a POW of the Confederates during the American Civil War, Isaac seeks shelter from his demons by stepping up to become a leader of men. Despite the violence that life has impressed upon him, Isaac becomes a symbol of peace in the book that grabs readers' attention so much that to the very last page they feel like a trusted confidante to whom a damaged man shares his deepest confessions. Fans of the original Moby Dick will appreciate that this book maintains the "madness, the frenzy, the boiling blood and the smoking brow" adventure. With its survival-against-all-odds tone, other readers will gravitate to the book's explorations of race relations and war-induced politics and traumas. The romantic storyline will also satiate those craving a thrilling love story. In other words, this book has something for everyone." - Nicole Yurcaba, The US Review of Books

"One of the major themes is the cyclic nature of life and history repeating itself, especially in war and destruction. The author comments on the futility of war. Most of the book(s) takes place in the 1800s, which in the United States included massive bloodshed during the War of 1812 and the Civil War... The love story between Isaac and Irene O'Shannon, a beautiful opera singer who was born in Ireland and grew up in Italy, is touching and heartfelt. Melillo also writes beautifully about Isaac's special bond with his mother, Abbie, a heroic and strong woman. During his quest to kill Moby Dick, Isaac meets and befriends the author Herman Melville on a whaling ship. He also develops a deep friendship with William Carney a black civil rights veteran who helps him kill the whale... The author previously published a prequel to Melville's Moby Dick, called Ahab, A Love Story. This book continues that rich fictional thread. The writing style is lyrical and noble. The characters are large and epic... a captivating love story and an adventurous tale of mankind's struggle against sin and evil. If you like history and 19th Century novels, you'll be sure to enjoy this one." - Leah Shepherd, Hollywood Book Reviews

"The way the author effortlessly takes you back in time, throughout the American Revolution to even the first World War, while also giving you an entirely new story based off a much-loved novel that has stood the test of time, is something which is rare and needs to be celebrated. Throughout this novel, there are many accurate historical references, which I found to be incredibly interesting and made the reading experience that much more enjoyable. Everything from astrological events, battles, and even ships' names along with their manifests and schedules are accurate in the sequel, which is truly impressive attention to detail. I also enjoyed the added fantasy elements in this tale with the whale being a "Manifestation of the evil residing in the souls of men." It only furthered my appreciation for this author's writing style. Whatever you do, do not sleep on this one. Pick up your copy of Death to Moby Dick: a Love Story by Stephen Melillo – you'll be glad you did!" - Aly Avina, Pacific Book Review



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