for Jeremy Huw Williams

The Borders of Sleep

Poems by Edward Thomas (1878-1917) John Pickard

1. Tall Nettles

Con moto ♪ = c. 104

Baritone

Piano

p

Tall t-tles_

sempre legatissimo, senza crescendo, senza diminuendo

pp

4

mf

p

— co-ver up, as they have he these ma-ny springs, the ru-sty

7

har-w, the plough Long worn out,_____

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10

and the rol - ler made of stone: On - ly the elm butt tops

13

the net - tles now.

16

mf

This r - ner of the farm - yard I like

9

most: As well as a - ny bloom up - on a

8va

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22

p

flower I like the dust on the net - tles,

(8)

25

ne - ver lost Ex - cept to prove the sweet - ness of a

ppp

28

pp

show

rit.

8va

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2. The Trumpet

Marziale ♩ = c. 88

Baritone

Piano

ff

Rise up, rise up, And,

ff

fl

5

as the trum - pet blow - ing s - es the

f

9

dreams of me As the dawn

ff

f

glow - ing The stars that left un - lit

meno f

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19

The land and wa - ter, Rise up, Rise up, and

ff *secco* *sf*

23

scat - ter the dew that co - vers The last night's

ff

28

lo - vers scat - ter it, scat - ter it!

fff *mf*

While you are lis - ten - ing To the clear horn, For -

f *f*

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36

-get, men, e - ve ry - thing

40

On this earth new - born,

sff

45

p

Ex - cept that it is love - li -

pp

pp

- er Than a - ny my - - ste - ries.

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57

f

62

f

O - pen your eyes to the air That has washe the eyes of the

67

stars Through a e dew - y night: Up with the

fff

ght, To the old wars; A-rise, a-rise!

ff *sfff*

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3. The Mill-Water

Agitato ♩ = c. 80

Baritone

Piano

pp

3

p

On - ly the sound re - mains Of the old mill;

5

Gone is the wheel;

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7 *mf*

On the prone roof and walls the net - tle reigns.

mf

9 *poco più* ***f***

Wa - - ter that toils no ore

f

11 *mf*

Dan - gles white le and, fal - ling, mocks The

3

mu - - sic of the mill - wheel's bu - sy

cresc.

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15

f

roar.

f dim.

17

meno f

Pret - ty to see, by day ts sound is

p

19

naught ared with thought and talk

and noise of la - bour and of play

p

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23

6 6

25

pp

pp

pp

Night

28

rit.

makes the dif - fer - ence.

A tempo

più f

più f

pp

In calm moon - light, Gloom in - fi - nite, The

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35

ff

sound comes surg - ing in up - on the

f

37

sense:

dim.

39

p

Sol - i - tude, com - pa - ny,

41

When it is night, grief or de -light By it must

sub. p

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43 *mf* *p*

haun - ted or con - clu - - ded be.

mf *p*

45 *pp mezza voce*

Of -

pp *p* *legatissimo*

47

- ten si - lent - ness Has but this one com -

- pan - ion; Wher - ev - er one creeps in the

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53

o - ther is:

pp

55

p

Of - ten a thought is drowned B it, some - times

57

3

Out of it mbs;

più f

All thoughts be - gin

mf

or end up - on this sound,

6

cresc.

f

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61

On - ly the i - dle foam Of wa - ter fall - ing Change - less - ly call -

64 *dim.*

- ing, Where once men had a work - [illegible] nd a home.

p

68 **men[illegible]sso e m[illegible]ndo**

rit.

pp

ppp

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4. Out in the Dark

Misterioso ♪ = c. 120

p

Baritone

Out in the dark o - ver the snow The fal - low fawns in -

Piano

pp

4

- vi - si - ble go With the fal - low doe; An the winds blow

8va

ppp

7

Fast as the stars are slow. Steal - thi - ly the dark haunts

pp

round And, when the lamp goes, with - out sound At a

ppp

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13

swift - er bound Than the swift - est hound, Ar - rives, and all else is

16

dolce

drowned; And star and I and wind and deer, are in the dark to-

19

p

- ge - ther, ear, t far, and fear Drums

my ear In that sage com - pan - y drear. How

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25

weak and lit - tle is the light, All the u - ni - verse of

28

sight, Love and de - light, be - fore th might, If you

8va

31

love it not, of night.

p

pp

molto rit.

pppp

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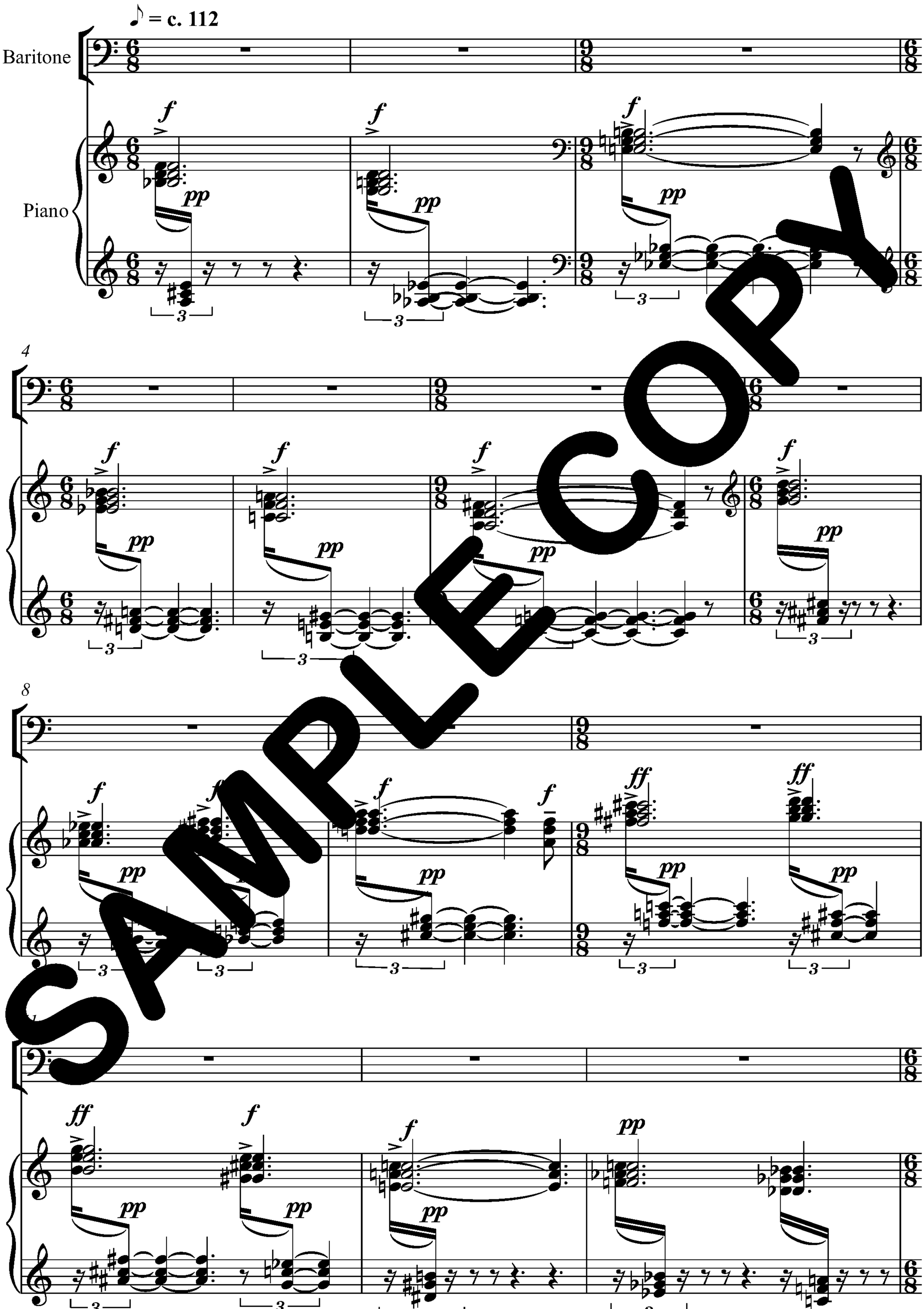
5. The Gallows



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14

p

There was a

ppp

17

wea - sel lived in the sun With all his fa - mi - ly Till a

f

pp

20

mf

kee - per shot him wi his And hung him up - on a tree, Where he

p

p

gs in the wind and rain, In the sun and in the snow, With - out

pp

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28

plea - sure, with - out pain, On the dead oak tree bough.

32

mf

T was a crow who was no

36

slee - per, But a thief and a mur - der - er Till a

ve - ry late hour; and this kee - per Made him one of the things that

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43

p

were, To hang and flap in rain and wind, In the sun and in the

pp

47

mf

snow, There are no more sins to be sinned On the dead oak tree

51

p

bough.

p

There was a mag - pie, too,

Had a long tongue and a long tail; He could both talk and do But

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58

f *p*

what did that___ a - vail? He, too, flaps in the wind___ and rain, A -

f *pp*

62

mf

- long - side wea - sel and crow, With - out plea - sure, - out in, On the

66

p *mf cre*

dead oak_tree bo h. And ma - ny o - ther beasts___And birds,

pp *f* *pp* *f*

3 3 3 3

skin,___ bone, and fea - ther, Have been ta - ken from their

martellato *fff*

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72

feasts And hung up there to - ge - ther, To swing and have end - less

ff

p

pp

76

lei - sure In the sun and in the sh With - out

79

pain, with - t p - sure, On the dead oak tree bough.

f

pp

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87

91

95

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6. Rain

♩ = c. 40

Baritone

Piano

(sim.)

pp *sempre legatissimo*

p

3

p

mid - night

5

rain, no - - thing but the wild___ rain

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7

p

on this bleak hut, and sol - i - tude,

9

mf

— and me Re - mem - b'ring a - that I shall

11

p

die And th hear the rain nor give it thanks For wash - ing

3

me clean- er than I have been Since I was born in - to this

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15

sol - i - tude.

17 *mf*

Bless - ed are the dead___ that th___ rain___ rains u - pon:

19 *p*

But h___ I pray___ that none whom once I loved___ Is dy - ing to -

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21

-night or ly - ing still a - wake

23

pp

So - li - ta - ry, list - en - ing t the ra

25

p

Ei - ther in pain thus in sy - pa - thy Help - less

7

ff

a - mong the li - ving and the dead,

f *pp*

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29

p

Like a cold wa - ter a - mong bro - ken reeds,

31

sotto voce

My - riads of bro - ken reeds all s and sti

33

p

Like me ho love which this wild rain Has

f *mf*

dis - solved ex - cept the love of death,

mf *p*

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37

p

If love it be for what is per - fect and Can - not,

39

the tem - pest tells me, dis - ap - point.

41

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7. No One Cares Less Than I

♩ = c. 100

Baritone

Piano

sff f p ff

3

sff f p ff

5

ff

'No one ca less than I, No -

f

bo-dy knows but God, Whe - ther I am

f

ff p cresc.

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13

des - tined to lie

f *p*

15

Un - der a for - eign clod'

sff

Slowe (Andante) ♩ = c. 60

18

mer *f*

re the words I made to the bu - gle call in the morn - ing

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21

But laugh - ing, storm - ing,

mf cresc.

f

24

scorn - ning, On - ly the bu - gle know what the

26

bu - gle say in the morn - ing,

ff

SAMPLE COPY

28

ff

And they do not care, when they blow the call that I

ff

31

heard and made words to ear- ly th mor ing.

ff

34

Allargando

5

martellato

fff

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8. The Sorrow of True Love

(Last Poem)

Con moto ♩ = c. 66

Baritone

Piano

p

The sor - row of true

pp

4

love is a great_ sor - row An true love part - ing

8

mf

black - ens a b t r - row:_ Yet al - most they e - qual joys,

sub.p

since their de - spair is but hope blind - ed by its

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14

p

tears, and clear A - bove the storm the hea - vens

18

pp

wait to be seen. grea - sor - row

mp

21

from less lov as been That can mis - take lack of des - pair for hope

3

24

cresc.

And knows not tem - pest and the per - fect scope Of

cresc.

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26

f *p*

sum - mer, but a fro - zen driz - zle per - pe - tu - al Of

f *pp*

30

drops that from re - morse or pi - ty fall d can - not ev - er

34

shine in the sun or thaw, Re - moved e - ter - nal - ly from the

p

pp

rit. *A tempo*

pp

sun's law.

ppp

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9. Lights Out

♩ = c. 66

Baritone

Piano

p *f* *pp*

6

p *f*

13

pp *f* *p* *f*

17

p

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21

p senza espressione

I have come to the bor - ders of sleep,

25

The un - fa - thom - a - ble deep Fo - rest ere all ust lose Their

p *f*

28

way, how - e - ver aight, Or win - ding, soon or

pp

p

late, They can - not choose. Ma - ny a

pp

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38

road and track That, since the dawn's first crack, Up to the

42

fo - rest brink de - ceived the trav - el - lers, Sud - den - ly

46

pp

now blurs, and in they sink.

appassionato

Here love ends, De - spair, am - bi - tion ends;

ff

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pressando

55

f

All plea - sure and all trou - ble,

mf

6 6 6 6 6 6 7

57

A tempo (subito)

ff

Al - though most sweet or bit - ter, ere ends in

ff *fff* *p*

61

sleep that is sweet - er han tasks most no - ble. There is not a - ny

ppp

book Or face of dear - est look That I would not turn from

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70

now To go in-to the un-known I must en-ter, and leave, a-lone, I

75

know not how. The tall fo-rest to-wers; I clou-dy fo-liage lowers A-

80

-head, shelf a-bo- shelf; Its si-lence I hear and o-

84

-bey That I may lose my way And my-self.

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July 4th, 2001