

Megan Cunningham

the calling under the breath

a piece in four movements
based on the poem by w. s. merwin



Through the evening
the mountains approach over the desert
sails from a windless kingdom

silence runs through the birds
their shadows freeze

where are you

where are you where are you
I have set sail on a vast mountain
whose shadow is everywhere

the calling under the breath

a piece in four movements
based on the poem by w. s. merwin

i. Slowly and eerily (♩ = 44)

Megan Cunningham

Soprano

Mezzo-soprano

Countertenor

Tenor

Tenor

Bass

pp

sim.

Through the even - ing through the even - ing

Through the even - ing through the even - ing

3

S.

M-S.

Ct.

T.

T.

B.

pp

pp

Through the even - ing through the even - ing through the even - ing

through the even - ing through the even - ing through the even - ing

6

p floating

S. Through the even - ing

M-S.

Ct. through the even - ing through the even - ing

T. through the even-ing through the even-ing Through the even ing

T. through the even-ing through the even-ing through the even-ing

B.

9

S. the moun - tains ap - proach

pp

M-S. Through the even-ing through the even-ing

Ct. through the even - ing through the even - ing

T. through the even ing through the even-ing through the even-ing

T. through the even-ing through the even-ing moun-tains ap-proach

B.

12

S. o - ver the de - sert

M-S. through the even - ing through the even - ing through the even - ing

Ct. through the even - ing moun - tains ap - proach

T. through the even-ing through the even-ing through the even-ing

T. moun-tains ap - proach moun-tains ap - proach moun-tains ap - proach

B. *pp* Through the even - ing moun - tains ap - proach

15

S. *ppp* sails *p* from a

M-S. through the even - ing through the even - ing

Ct. moun - tains ap - proach o - ver

T. through the even - ing moun - tains ap - proach

T. moun - tains ap - proach moun - tains ap - proach

B. *pp* o - - ver de - sert o - - ver

17

S. wind - - - less king - dom

M-S. through the even - ing through the even - ing

Ct. de - sert o - ver de - sert wind - less

T. moun - tains ap - proach moun - tains ap - proach

T. o - ver de - sert o - ver de - sert

B. de - sert o - - ver de - sert

19

S. *pp* sails from a

M-S. through the even - ing through the even - ing

Ct. king - dom wind - less king - dom wind - less

T. moun - tains ap - proach wind - less king - dom

T. o - ver de - sert o - ver de - sert

B. sails from a wind - - - less

21

S. wind - less king - dom mm

M-S. wind - less king - dom wind - less king - dom mm

Ct. king - dom wind - less king - dom mm

T. wind - less king - dom wind - less king - dom

T. wind - less king - dom wind - less king - dom mm

B. king - - dom

ii. With more urgency ($\text{♩} = 60$)

23

S. si - lence runs through the

M-S. si - lence

Ct. si - lence runs through the

T. mm si - lence runs through the

T. si - lence

B. si - lence

25

S. birds runs through the birds

M-S. *p* runs through the birds runs through the birds

Ct. birds runs through the birds runs through the

T. birds runs through the birds

T. *p* runs runs through the birds runs through

B. *p* runs through

27 *poco accel.*

S. runs through the birds si - lence

M-S. runs through the birds runs through the birds runs

Ct. birds runs through, runs through the birds runs through the birds

T. *mf* *p* si-lence runs through the birds runs through the birds

T. *mf* *p* si-lence runs through the birds runs through the birds runs through the

B. *mf* *p* si-lence runs through the birds runs through the

A tempo

29 *f* *mp*

S. runs through the birds runs through the birds runs through the birds

M-S. through the birds runs through the birds runs through the birds

Ct. runs through the birds runs through the birds runs through the birds

T. si - lence runs through the birds si - lence runs through the birds

T. birds runs through the birds si - lence runs

B. birds runs through the birds si - lence

31 **molto rit.** **Much slower, with gravitas**

S. *ppp* their sha-dows freeze

M-S. *ppp* their sha-dows freeze

Ct. *ppp* their sha-dows freeze

T. *p* runs through the birds their sha-dows freeze

T. *pp* through the birds runs through the birds their sha-dows freeze

B. *mf* *pp* *ppp* runs through the birds runs through the birds their sha-dows freeze

iii. Hushed

iv. With a feeling of despair (♩ = 44)

9

34

S. whispered
where are you

M-S. whispered
where are you

Ct. whispered
where are you

T. whispered
where are you

T. whispered
where are you

B. whispered
where are you

iv. With a feeling of despair (♩ = 44)

S. where are you where are you

M-S. where are you where are you

Ct. where are you where are you where are you

T. *ppp* where are you where are you where are you

T. *ppp* where are you where are you

B. where are you where are you where are you

38

S. *pp* where are you I have set sail on a

M-S. *ppp* where are you where are you where are you

Ct. *ppp* where are you where are you where are you

T. where are you where are you where are you

T. where are you where are you where are you

B. *pp* where are you I have set sail on a

42

S. *vast moun - tain whose sha - dow _____ is*

M-S. *are you _____ where are you _____ where are you _____ where*

Ct. *you _____ where are you _____ where are you _____ where are*

T. *_____ where are you _____ where are you _____ where are you _____*

T. *where are you _____ where are you _____ where are you _____*

B. *vast moun - tain whose sha - dow _____ is*

45

S. *ev' - ry - where _____ ev' - - ry - where _____* *ppp*

M-S. *are you _____ where are you _____ where are you _____ where _____*

Ct. *you _____ where are you _____ where are you _____ where _____*

T. *_____ where are you _____ where are you _____ where _____*

T. *where are you _____ where are you _____ where are you _____ where _____*

B. *ev' - ry - where _____ ev' - - ry - where _____* *ppp*