

JOAN SZYMKO

Denise Levertov
"Variations on a Theme by Rilke"

A Bell Awakened

The score is divided into three systems. The first system is a piano introduction in 5/4 time, marked *f* *ringing* and *mf*. The second system begins with vocal entries for S1 and S2 in 4/4 time, with lyrics: "A cer - tain day be - came a pres - ence to me; there it was con -". The piano accompaniment continues with a *mf* dynamic. A large green watermark "for - perusal only" is overlaid on the piano part. The third system continues the vocal parts, with lyrics: "front - ing me, a sky, air, light: a be - ing." and "a sky, air, light: a be - ing." The piano accompaniment features a *f* dynamic and a *cresc.* marking. The score concludes with a fermata over the final notes.

10

S1 *mp* Ah Oh Ah Oh Ah Oh Ooh It leaned *mf*

S2

A1 *mf* And be - fore it start - ed to de - scend from the height of noon, it leaned *mf*

A2

13

o - ver and struck my shoul - der as if with the flat of a sword,

o and struck my shoul - der as if with the flat of a sword,

mf *f* *mf*

no ped.

17

S1 *mp* grant-ing me hon-or and a task. A cer-tain day be-came a

S2 grant-ing me hon-or and a task. A cer-tain

mp

20

S1 pres-ence to me, there it was con-front-ing me, a sky, air, *div.*

S2 day be-came a pres-ence to me; there it was con-front-ing me,

A1 *mf* there it was con-front-ing me,

A2 *mf* a sky, air,

for perusal only

24

f *p* light: a be-ing, Ah Ah

f *p* light: a be-ing,

f *p* light: a be-ing,

f *p* light: a be-ing, Ah Ah Ah

legato e sostenuto

pp *mp* *p* *mp*

Red.

29 *mf* there it was con-front-ing me, a sky, air, light: a
mf there it was con-front-ing me, a sky, air, light: a
mf Ah
mf there is was, Ah Ah
mf *cresc.*
 ped. each beat

for perusal only

33 *f* *dim.* *mp*
 be - ing, a be - ing, be - ing.
f *div.* *dim.* *mp*
 be - ing, a be - ing, be - ing.
f *div.* *dim.* *mp*
 be - ing, a be - ing, be - ing.
f *dim.* *mp*
 a be - ing, be - ing.
 Ped.

37

S1
S2

A1
A2

mf

p *cresc.* *mf*

It leaned

And be - fore it start - ed to de - scend from the height of noon, it leaned

p not staccato *molto cresc.*

no ped.

41

f

o - ver and struck my shoul - der as if with the

f **for perusal only**

o - ver and struck my shoul - der as if with the

44

flat of a sword, grant - ing me hon - or and a task.

flat of a sword, grant - ing me hon - or and a task.

Ped.

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54 **slower** ♩=66

wa - kened _____ and what I _____ 7

wa - kened _____

wa - kened, _____ and what I heard, _____

wa - kened, _____ and what I heard, _____ *mf*

wa - kened, _____ and what I heard, _____ *mp*

slower ♩=66

f *mp*

Ped. **for perusal only**

58 *rit.* *tutti* S1 **allargando** *p* *mp* *piú mosso* ♩=74

S1 and what I heard was my whole self sing - ing, _

S2 *rit.* *p* *mp* *piú mosso*

S2 and what I heard was my whole self sing - ing, _

A1 *p* *rit.* *mp* *piú mosso*

A1 and what I heard, and what I heard was my whole self sing - ing, _

A2 *rit.* *p* *mp* *piú mosso*

A2 and what I heard whole self

allargando *p* *mp* *piú mosso* ♩=74

8 62 *mf* say - ing and sing - ing what it knew: *f* I

mf say - ing and sing - ing what it knew: *f* I

mf say - ing and sing - ing what it knew: *f* I

mf say - ing what it knew: *f* I

ped.

64 6 equal parts *poco a poco accel., sempre f*

can. **for perusal only** can.

poco a poco accel., sempre f

8^{va}

67 *ff* can. *ff* I can. I can.

(8) *ff*