

Ridge Crossing

I: Nightfire watch

CLIFF CREGO

mezzo-soprano

piano

ms

pn

ms

8vb

f *Red.* *sonoro*

sostenuto e sonoro *mf* / *f* Night-fi - re watch turns to sleep, the

8va

soft glow of thoughts rolled out on beds of

♩ = 60

11

ms

fea-ther and rock. The arms of whirl-ing

pn

8va

8vb

14

ms

stars reach down, a day, ri-ses on smoke and

pn

5/4

18

ms

ash.

pn

p

poco

f

attacca

II: The afternoon river's roar

mezzo-soprano

f The af-ter-noon riv-er's roar now the gen-tle mur-mur of

f *Ped. sempre*

♩ = 60

piano

ms

dawn, a cho-rus of dream-ing fish sings of schools of

pn

ms

5 birch leaves soar-ing straight out of the she-goat's milk-y eyes.

pn

ms

7 *(sostenuto)*

pn

c. 2' 12" attacca

The musical score is written in 5/4 time and consists of four systems. The first system shows the mezzo-soprano and piano parts. The mezzo-soprano part begins with a forte dynamic and includes lyrics: 'The af-ter-noon riv-er's roar now the gen-tle mur-mur of'. The piano part features a forte dynamic and a 'Ped. sempre' instruction. A tempo marking of quarter note = 60 is provided. The second system continues the mezzo-soprano part with lyrics: 'dawn, a cho-rus of dream-ing fish sings of schools of'. The piano part continues with a forte dynamic. The third system continues the mezzo-soprano part with lyrics: '5 birch leaves soar-ing straight out of the she-goat's milk-y eyes.'. The piano part continues with a forte dynamic. The fourth system shows the mezzo-soprano part with a 'sostenuto' instruction and a fermata. The piano part continues with a forte dynamic and a fermata. The score concludes with the instruction 'c. 2' 12" attacca'.

III: Waking in wonder

mezzo-soprano

f Wak-ing in won - der, the dark - ness of the val-ley floor

piano

ms

stares breath-less at the peak's ros-y blush, — the face of

pn

ms

a moth-er — play - ing mad

pn

ms

and a child feign-ing sleep.

pn

c. 3' 00"
attacca

IV: Walking light

mezzo-soprano

f Walk-ing light,

$\text{♩} = 60$ $\text{♩} = 80$ (*depress key silently*)

piano

f *8va* *ped.* *sonoro*

5

ms

head-ing south o - ver a high moun-tain pass,

pn

ped. (*ped.*)

8

ms

pn

(*ped.*)

10

ms

a packheavy with sim-ple things. *f* The

pn

(*Red.*)

13

ms

rise and fall of trees and snow *f* a cy - cle
(with a strong quarter)

pn

(*Red.*) * (*Red.*)

15

ms

spin-ning new each turn.

pn

(*Red.*) *mf* (*Red.*) *f*

c. 4' 05"
attacca

V: The high sheltered space . . .

mezzo-soprano

piano

$\text{♩} = 60$

p

mf

red.

float the 8th

3

ms

mp The high shel-tered space of a spruce for-est

pn

mf

6

ms

dis-solves in-to the low knot-ty shrubs,

pn

9

ms

tan - gled with, tan - gled with, the

pn

(Ped.)

12

ms

light of a thou - sand moons—

pn

15

ms

the pa - tience that lives in - side thin

pn

18

ms

air.

pn

(Ped.)

pp *ppp*

*

c. 5' 47"
attacca

VI: The north-facing slopes . . .

mezzo-soprano

f The north - fac - ing slopes of the ar - du - ous

♩ = 80

piano

ff *ped.* *p* *subito non-pedale; depress keys silently* *ff* *ped.*

ff *sempre marcato molto e secco*

ms

life where snow goes to

piano

p *ff* *p* *ff*

ms

to hide from the spring plants, who,

piano

ff *p* *ff* *p* *ff*

4

ms
af - ter long months of snow - y in - ward - ness,

pn
ff *ped.* *p* *ff* *p*

ff *ff*

5

ms
are a - blaze with pinks and wild blues.

pn
p *ff* *p*

ff

c. 6' 12"
attacca

VII: Through windflowers . . .

piano

$\text{♩} = 60$

mf
Red. sonoro

pn

5

f

pn

8

Red.

mf Through wind - - flow - ers

(poss. secco)

f

10

filled with a harp's gen-tle praise,

pn

f *mp*

12

pn

pp *f* *mf*

14

step-ping out on-to scree and mist-y snow. To - tal white...

ped off

Red.

pn

f

16

the sound of met-al

ped off

ff *p*

ff

Red.

* *ff*

18

on ice

ff *p*

Red.

ff * *Red.*

20

the on - ly mov - ing

ff *p*

Red. * *Red.*

22

thing.

f *ped off*

f

ped off

* *ped off*

c. 7' 50"
attacca

VIII: *A pathless passage*

mezzo-soprano

piano

$\text{♩} = 90$

5

6

p *ff* *p* *ff*

Red. * *Red.* * *Red.* *

ms

pn

7

ff *f* *p* *f* *p* *f*

Red. * *Red.* * * *Red.* * *Red.* *

5

ms

5

7

pn

ff

p *ff*

p *f*

Red. * *Red.* * *Red.*

6

ms

f A path - - - less pas - - -

(strong quarters, with the voice)

pn

f

p *f*

3

6

* *Red.* * *Red.* * *Red.*

7

ms

sage *f* through the day - - -

pn

f

p *f*

3

7

Red. * *Red.*

8

ms *f* time bo - - - re - - - al night,

pn *f* *p* *f* 5

* Ped. * Ped. * Ped.

9

ms -

pn 7 5 7 Ped.

* Ped. *

10

ms *f* through down - - - hill winds

pn *f* ped off ped on *p* *f*

* Ped. * Ped. *

11

ms *f* that give no rest.

pn *f*

p *f*

3 6

Red. * *Red.* * *Red.* *

5 7 5

12

ms

pn *mp*

p *f*

Red. * *Red.* * *Red.* *

ped off

13

ms *f* A dark - - - ness

pn *f* *f* *f*

p *p* *p* 3 *Red.*

Red. * *Red.* * *p*

14

ms *f* so com - - - plete

pn *f*

Red. * Red. 5

15

ms that ech - - - oes

pn *p*

Red. 3 *

16

ms *mf* crack *mp* and rocks

pn *mf* *mp*

mp 5 *mf* *p* Red. *

♩ = 120

17

ms *mp* fall for - - - ev - - - - er. —

pn *mp* * *Red.*

20

ms (echo)

pn *p* *mf* *p* * *Red.* * *Red.* * *Red.*

23

ms (echo)

pn *pp* *mp* *pp* * *Red.* * *Red.* * *Red.* * *ppp* * *ppp* * *ppp* * *ppp*

c. 9'07"
attacca

7

ms *f* nei-ther up nor down, but boots and breath,

pn *f* *ff*

Red. * Red.

9

ms the i - dea of south pres-sing down bursts

pn *ff* Red.

11

ms as the bod - y stops

pn *p* *ff* *f* (sonoro)

13

ms
and the earth lets go *ff* at *ff*

pn
ff *p* *f* *p* *f*

Red. *

16

ms
last! _____

pn
ff *f* *mf*

(with a smooth, continuous accelerando...)

♩ = 30 = 35 = 40 = 45 = 52 = 60 = 69 = 79

Red. *mf* *

24

pn
mp *p*

= 91 = 104 = 60 = 69 = 79 = 91

30

pn
= 104 = 120 (constant)

8va *loco*

p *ff* (sec)

c. 10' 04" *attacca*

X: On the edge!

mezzo-soprano

"Swallow-Klavier"

p *f* *p* *pp* *mf* *pp* *f* *p*

play dynamics spatially:
loud = close; soft = far away

pn

f *pp* *pp* *f*

pn

pp *mf* *pp* *pp*

pn

mf *pp* *f*

8va

pn

(8va)

p = 60 = 69 = 79 = 91 *f* *p*

(L.H. poco pesante)

(8va)

pn

= 104

f = 120

mf *f*

= 60

loco = 71 = 84 = 101 = 120 8va

mp

mf * *p* *mf* *p* *mf*

43

ms

f On the edge!

(8va)

loco *f*

pn

49

ms

f The point

= 60 = 71

f *p* *pp*

pn

f *p*

55

ms

pn

8^{va} = 84 = 101 = 120

ped off

loco

f at

mp *mf* *mf* *p* *f*

61

ms

pn

which two snow - - - flakes

pn

= 30 = 36 = 42

f *pp* *mp* *mf*

f *p* *mf*

73

ms

pn

= 50 = 60 = 71 = 84 = 101 = 120

pp (*subito*) *mf* *pp* *ff* *p* (*subito*)

pp *ff*

79

ms *f* di - - - - - vide

pn *f p* *f p*

85

ms in - - - - - to

pn *f p* *f p*

91

ms *f* north and south,

pn *f p* *f p* *f p*

mf *pp* *mf*

8va *loco* ped on ped off

103

ms *f* the child - - -

pn *pp* *mf* *p* *f* *p* *f p*

109

ms
ren of light and

pn
mp

115

ms
f dark part - - - ing

pn
8va -----| *loco*

121

ms
ways,

pn
8va -----|
= 30
p *8vb* *mf*

127

ms

pn
8va -----|
= 36 = 42 = 50 = 60 = 71 = 84
8vb -----| *loco*

133

ms
to meet a - - - gain

pn
= 101 = 120 = 101 = 84

mf

139

ms
on the far side

pn
= 71 = 101 = 84 = 71 = 120 = 101

145

ms
of change. to meet a - - -

pn
= 84 = 71 = 60 (f) = 101 = 120

mf

151

ms

gain on the far

pn

ped on

101 = 84 = 71 = 101 = 84

157

ms

side of change.

pn

Red.

p

= 71 = 120 = 101 = 84 = 71 = 60

163

ms

pn

p *mf* *p* *mf*

= 120

pn

pp *f* *pp*

pn

mf *pp* *pp* *mf*

pn

pp *pp* *mf* *sonoro*

pn

8va *mf* *ppp*

c. 12' 07"
attacca

XI: Sight!

= 120

= 160

f Sight! so ut-ter-ly lim-i-ted,

p *f* *p* (Red.) *mp*

mf in-cap-a-ble of fo-cus-ing on

(Red.) (Red.)

two eyes at once, of look-ing

(Red.)

out on the whole

(Red.) (Red.)

(whole)

(Red.)

31 (whole) (whole)

36 of (of)

43 north and south,
* Ped.

52 grasp - ing it as
Ped.

63 one.
Ped.

c. 13' 07"
attacca

5 *8va*

pn

5 5 5 *ff* 5 5 *pp* 5 5

3 3 3 *pp* 3 3 *ff* 3 3

3 3 3 *ff* 3 3 *pp*

7 *8va*

pn

5 5 5 5 5 5

3 3 3 3 3 *p*

3 3 3 *ff* *Red.*

9

ms

f Re - - - - -

8va

pn

p 5 5 5 5 5 5

ff *pp* 3 3 3 3 3 *pp* *p*

pp * 3 3 3 *f* *Red.*

11

ms
turn - *mp*

8va

pn
ff 5 5 *p* 5 5 5 5

ff 3 3 3 3 *p* 3

Red. *pp* * *f*

13

ms
ing! *pp*

8va

pn
ff 5 5 5 5 *p* 5

ff 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

Red.

15

ms
(-ing!) *f* Would it be pos -

8va

pn
ff *ff* 3 3 3 3 *p*

* *ff* 3

23

ms
f dis - tant green

8va
f 5 5 5 *p* 5

pn
ff 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

25

ms
f of the

8va
f 5 5 *mf* 5 *p*

pn
ff 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

27

ms
 for - - - - - est,

8va
mf *ff* *ff* *p*

pn
p 3 3 3 3 *ff* 3 3 3 3 *p*

29

ms *f* for - - - - - est

8va

pn 5 6 7 3

5 3

ff

Red.

31

ms Red.

8va

pn 5 3 ff 3

ff Red.

ff

Red.

(Red.)

34 *(sostenuto)*

ms *f* with - out the stead-y

8va

pn ff ff

(Red.) (Red.)

37

ms

rise

pn

8^{va}

ff

3

ff (sec)

39

ms

f and fall

pn

8^{va}

ff

pp

ff

3

ff

Red.

* Red.

* ff Red.

41

ms

f of wind

pn

pp

ff

3

ff

* Red.

* ff Red.

3

ff

43

ms *f* and

8va

pn *pp* *ff* *ff* *subito*

* *Red.* 3

45

ms rocks.

pn *pp* *ff* 5 5

Red. * *Red.*

47

ms (a) (a)

pn *ff* 7 5 5

* *Red.*

49

ms *mf* (m) *f* # of trees

pn *ff* *p* 5 *ff* *f* *mf*

52

ms and

pn *mp* *loco*

54

ms *f* snow.

pn *p* 5 *pp* 6 *f* *p* *pp*

c. 15' 02"
attaca

XIII: Coming down . . .

mezzo-soprano

mp Com - - ing down,

piano

ms

a rain drop runs

pn

ms

pn

p (*legato molto*)

ppp *ppp*

pn

pn

p

... poco a poco accelerando e crescendo ...

pn *p*

3

= 89

(... poco a poco accelerando e crescendo ...)

pn

3

= 90

= 94

ms

28

mf the

(... poco a poco accelerando e crescendo ...) = 100

pn *pp*

ms

31

south edge

pn

3

= 104

= 109

(... poco a poco accelerando e crescendo ...)

ms

34

mf of a ridge

pn

3

mp \triangleright *p*

= 112

= 118

(... poco a poco accelerando e crescendo ...)

37

ms *mf* the grain

pn = 127

(... poco a poco accelerando e crescendo ...)

40

ms *f* of a slope of - fer - ing

pn = 130 = 135

(... poco a poco accelerando e crescendo ...)

43

ms count - less ways

pn = 145

(... poco a poco accelerando e crescendo ...)

mf

46

ms *f*

pn = 160

f *pp* *f*

mf SONORO

49

ms *f* count - - - - less

loco

pn = 127 = 101 *p* = 160 = 127 *mp*

f *p*

3

53

ms ways

pn = 101 *pp* = 160 = 127 *mf* = 101

mf

3

57 *(sostenuto)*

ms *f* of be - - - - com - - - - ing

pn = 160 = 127 = 101 *pp* = 160

3

61

ms *mf* a

8va

pn *p* = 127 *f* = 101 *pp* = 160 *mf* = 127

ped off

mf

65

ms stream, of

loco

pn = 101 *mp* = 160 = 127 = 101

mp

69

ms flow - - ing then re - - - turn - - -

pn = 160 = 127 = 101 = 160 = 127 = 101

p

ms

ing.

8^{va}

loco

ppp

f

p

mf

p

mf

= 160 = 127 = 101

= 160 = 127 = 101

pn

= 160 = 127 = 101

= 160 = 127 = 101

p

pn

= 160 = 127 = 101

= 160 = 127 = 101

= 160 = 127 = 101

p

p

c. 17' 13"
attacca

XIV: Traceless threads

mezzo-soprano

"Granite-Klavier"

piano

$\text{♩} = 80$

p

6

8^{va}

5 *p*

5

5

5

5

(*simile*)

p

3

3

3

3

(*simile*)

8

ms

p The fur - - -

(8^{va})

5

5

5

5

5

5

3

3

3

3

3

3

10

ms
ther down,

pn

mf 5 5 7

pp 6 *p* 7 *mp* 3

11

pn

5 5 7 3

pp *p*

12

mf the more lim - - - it - ed

pn

3 3 3 5 5 3 5 7

mp *p* *mp* 6 *mp*

(crescendo poco a poco)

14

ms

f things

loco

be

8va

pn

p

9

5 7

mp

15

ms

come

loco

pn

5

5

5

3

p

17

ms

a

self - spun

trace - less

(loco)

pn

3

3

5

p

19

ms

thread feels its way

pn

6 5 3

21

ms

to well - worn paths,

pn

3 3 5 6 7 5 3

p *mp*

23

ms

to jeep trails,

pn

5 6 7 8va

mf *mp*

25 *(sostenuto)*

ms *f* to the hard con - crete

8va

pn *pp* *f* *f* *mf* *f*

27

ms used eve - - - ry day.

pn *ff* *(sonoro molto)* *ff* *mf*

29

ms *ff*

pn *fff* *mp*

c. 18' 51"
attaca

XV A day rises . . .

mezzo-soprano

(sempre) *f* A day ris - es on

"Star-Klavier"

piano

$\text{♩} = 60$ (play strong, steady) $\text{♩} = 120$

3

ms smoke and ash, A day ris - es on

pn

f (sempre)

6

ms smoke and ash on smoke and ash, on

pn

Red.

8

ms smoke and ash on smoke and ash on

pn

10

ms

smoke and ash, on smoke and ash on

pn

12

ms

smoke and ash,

pn

ped on

14

ms

eyes search - ing for

pn

16
ms
whirlpool gal-axies, sounds of wa-ter and rock.
pn

18
ms
Thoughts
pn

20
ms
turn, turn, Thoughts
pn

22

ms

turn, with-er and dry, feed -

pn

24

ms

ing night fi - res no one sees...

pn

26

ms

pn

c. 21' 09"
attacca
 VII.1.2003
 Northwest Ohio, USA