

# 'I learned that her name was Proverb'

Denise Levertov (1923-1997)

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The musical score is for a vocal ensemble and piano. It consists of five staves. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 66. The music is in 4/4 time, with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The score is divided into two systems of four measures each. The vocal parts are Soprano 1, Soprano 2, Alto 1, and Alto 2. The piano part is on the bottom staff. The lyrics are: Soprano 1: "who lead us deep-er lab - y -"; Soprano 2: "And the se-cret names of all we meet deep-er lab - y -"; Alto 1: "of all we meet who lead us deep-er in-to our lab - y -"; Alto 2: "who lead deep-er lab - y -". The piano part is mostly silent, with some faint markings in the bass line.

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'I learned that her name was Proverb.'  
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A

8  $\text{♩} = 100$  *mf*

S1 rinth of val-leys and moun - tains,

S2 rinth

A1 rinth

A2 rinth

*p* *mf*

*ped.* *ped.* *ped.*

$A^{b7}$   $F^{11}$   $E^{A7}(\#11)$   $F^{11}$   $B^b-$

13

S1 twist-ing val - leys of val-leys and moun

S2 moun *mf*

A1 *mf* moun

A2 *mf* moun

*mf*

and steep - er moun - tains,

*ped.* *ped.*

$A^{A7}(\#11)$   $E^{A7}$   $F-$

16

S1 - tains, twist-ing val - leys,

S2 - tains, twist-ing val - leys,

A1 - tains,

A2 - tains,

and steep - er moun -

*ped.* *ped.*

$E^{A7}$   $B^b-$   $E^{A7}$   $F-$   $E^{b7}(\#9)$

**B**

19

S1 of val-leys and moun tains, twist-ing val-leys of val-leys and moun-tains,

S2 *mf* twist-ing val-leys,

A1 in-to our lab-y-rinth in-to our lab-y-rinth

A2 -tains and steep-er moun-tains,

*A<sup>b</sup>.7* *G<sup>Δ7</sup>(<sup>#9</sup>)* *E<sup>Δ7</sup>(<sup>#11</sup>)* *F-6* *A<sup>b</sup>.7* *G<sup>Δ7</sup>(<sup>#9</sup>)*

*Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.* *Ped.* *pedal simile through m. 40*

22

S1 twist-ing val-leys their names are al-ways,

S2 twist-ing val-leys, names are al-ways,

A1 their hid-den names are al-ways,

A2 their hid-den names are al-ways,

*E<sup>Δ7</sup>(<sup>#11</sup>)* *F-6* *A<sup>b</sup>.7* *G<sup>Δ7</sup>(<sup>#9</sup>)* *E<sup>Δ7</sup>(<sup>#11</sup>)* *F-6*

25

S1 their names are al-ways,

S2 names are al-ways,

A1 their hid-den names are al-ways,

A2 names are al-ways,

*A<sup>b</sup>.7* *G<sup>Δ7</sup>(<sup>#9</sup>)* *E<sup>Δ7</sup>(<sup>#11</sup>)* *F-6*