

*by our faint shadows going before us*  
for 3 or more people

luke martin / February 2023

When I was near Woodlands, the fog overhead became thin,  
and I saw the shapes of the Central Stars. Again it closed,  
and the whole sky was the same.

30th. Walked I know not where.  
31st. Walked.  
1st. Walked by moonlight.

(Dorothy Wordsworth, *Alfoxden Journals* (1798))

\*

four short melodies, played quietly, slowly.  
octaves free, staves in treble clef, pitches as 'zones' (i.e., within a semitone).

melody IV is played only once, in the middle of the piece, *tutti* and at written pitch.  
melodies I, II, and III are wandered between, individually, throughout the rest of the piece.

where there are dyads or triads in a melody, any number may be played.  
where there is an 'X', any sound may be played, or a silence. their position on the staff has no bearing.

#### melody IV

21'20" – 23'40" *tutti*, each note = ~4" (the melody repeats 5 times)

note lengths should be felt as a group and are approximately 4" per note.  
after melody IV you may continue where you left off or return to the beginning of melody I, II, or III.

#### melodies I, II, III

0'00" – 21'20" & 23'40" – 45'00"

begin on any melody and with either method.  
perhaps once or twice, at any point, a long silence (after which, continue where you left off).

two methods. neither strikingly distinct from the other.

1. a note every 30", each approximately between 4" – 30" in duration.  
for ex: if at 5'30", then the note begins at 5'30" and end between ~5'34" and 6'00".
2. notes played freely, though generally slowly and with space.

melodies repeat *ad infinitum*—  
each played in full before repeating or shifting between melodies.  
an optional pause if repeating the same; a pause if shifting between.  
methods may change only after a melody has been played in full.

