

The Holy Knot

for mixed voices

(SSSSAAAATTTTBBBB)

and percussion

(1 player)

Music by David Jason Snow

Words by Howard Schwartz

“The Holy Knot” and “The Golem,” from *Vessels*, Unicorn Press ©1977.
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Percussion battery:

exact pitches not specified

Almglocken (4)

2 pitches each, exact pitches not specified

Log drums (3)

small medium large

Tamtams (3)

Maracas

Marimba

The percussion notation consists of five staves. The first four staves (Almglocken, Log drums, Tamtams, and Maracas) are grouped together with a vertical brace on the left. The Marimba part is written on a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The notation uses various note values and rests to indicate the rhythmic pattern for each instrument.

Duration: approximately 5 minutes

Performance note: *Sprechstimme* in the tenor and bass parts from measures 64 to 71 is to be chanted in the contour suggested by the notation. No specific pitches are implied.

♩ = 66

S1

S2

S3

S4

A1

A2

A3

A4

T1

T2

T3

T4

B1

B2

B3

B4

Almglocken

Log drums

Tamtams

Maracas

Marimba

yarn mallets

ppp

mf

ppp

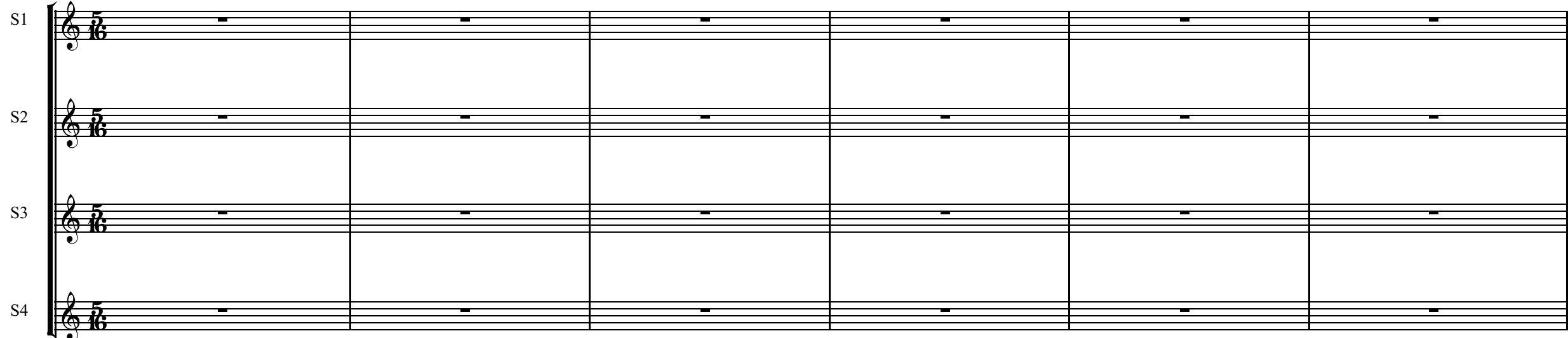
ppp

p

mp

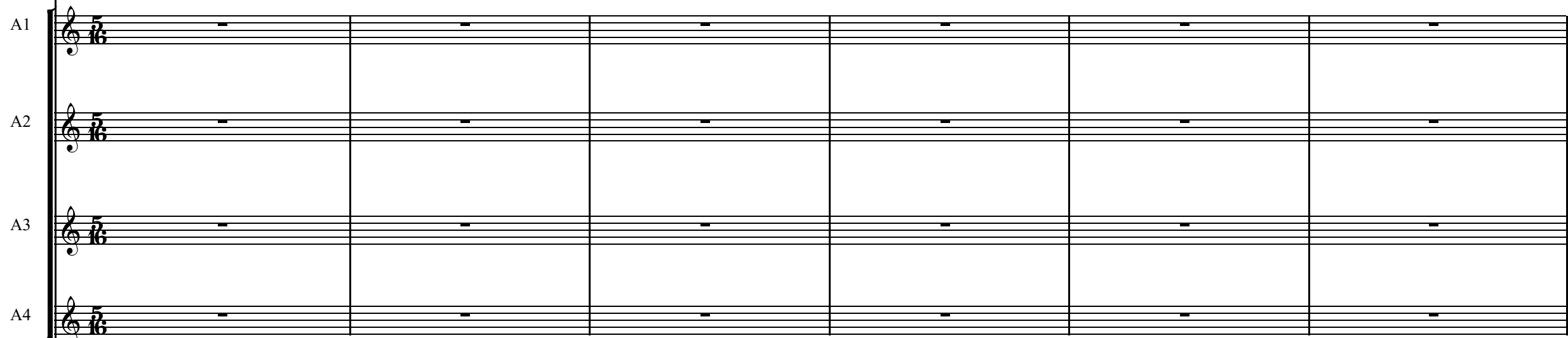
l.v.

S1
S2
S3
S4



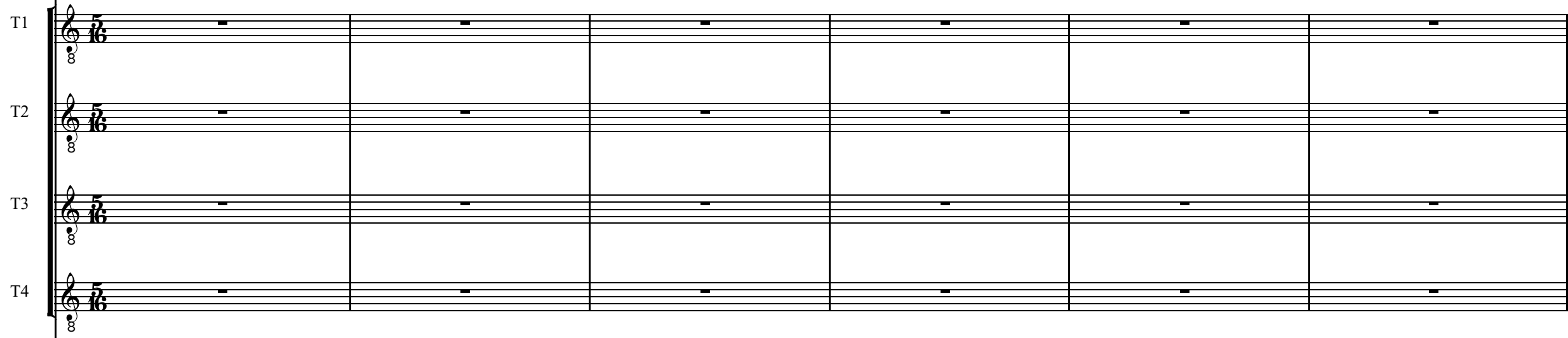
Four vocal staves (S1-S4) in treble clef, 5/8 time signature. Each staff contains a whole rest in every measure.

A1
A2
A3
A4



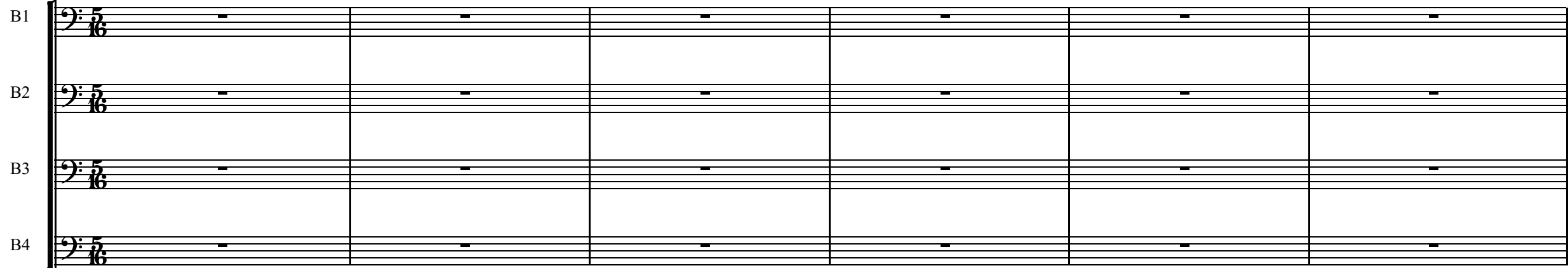
Four vocal staves (A1-A4) in treble clef, 5/8 time signature. Each staff contains a whole rest in every measure.

T1
T2
T3
T4



Four vocal staves (T1-T4) in treble clef, 5/8 time signature. Each staff contains a whole rest in every measure.

B1
B2
B3
B4



Four vocal staves (B1-B4) in bass clef, 5/8 time signature. Each staff contains a whole rest in every measure.

Almglocken
Log drums
Tamtams
Maracas
Marimba



Almglocken: Rest in all measures.
Log drums: Treble clef, 5/8 time signature. Measures 1-5: *pp* quarter notes with accents. Measure 6: *f* eighth notes with accents.
Tamtams: Rest in all measures.
Maracas: Rest in all measures.
Marimba: Treble and bass clefs, 5/8 time signature. Rest in all measures.

This musical score is for a large ensemble, including voices and various percussion instruments. The score is organized into measures, with time signatures changing from 4/4 to 2/4 and back to 4/4. The instruments and parts are as follows:

- Vocalists:** Soprano (S1-S4), Alto (A1-A4), Tenor (T1-T4), and Bass (B1-B4). All vocal parts are currently silent, indicated by a horizontal line with a dash.
- Almglocken:** A bell instrument that plays a melodic line starting in the 5th measure, marked with dynamics *p*, *f*, and *p*. It includes fingering numbers (5) and a fermata.
- Log drums:** Play a rhythmic pattern in the first three measures, marked *ppp*. They are silent in the subsequent measures.
- Tamtams:** Play a single note in the 5th measure, marked *pp*, with a fermata and the instruction *l.v.* (leave voice).
- Maracas:** Silent throughout the score.
- Marimba:** Silent throughout the score.

The score is divided into measures by vertical bar lines. The time signature changes from 4/4 to 2/4 at the beginning of the 5th measure and returns to 4/4 at the end of the 6th measure. The 7th measure is also in 4/4 time.

S1
S2
S3
S4

Four vocal staves (S1-S4) in 4/4 time, each containing a whole rest in every measure.

A1
A2
A3
A4

Four vocal staves (A1-A4) in 4/4 time, each containing a whole rest in every measure.

T1
T2
T3
T4

Four trombone staves (T1-T4) in 4/4 time, each containing a whole rest in every measure.

B1
B2
B3
B4

Four bassoon staves (B1-B4) in 4/4 time, each containing a whole rest in every measure.

Almglocken
Log drums
Tamtams
Maracas

Four percussion staves. Almglocken: *f* triplet of eighth notes. Log drums: whole rest. Tamtams: *f* eighth note. Maracas: whole rest.

Marimba

Marimba staff with *ppp* dynamic and *ad libitum* marking. *ppp* dynamic and *ppp* dynamic markings are also present at the bottom of the page.

S1
S2
S3
S4

A1
A2
A3
A4

p
O land...

T1
T2
T3
T4

B1
B2
B3
B4

Almglocken
Log drums
Tamtams
Maracas

Marimba

presto possibile
ff *pp* *fff* *pp*
simile

S1
S2
S3
S4

p *ff*

of the scep - ter...
of the scep - ter...
of the scep - ter...
O... land... of the scep - ter...

A1
A2
A3
A4

p *ff*

of the scep - ter...
O land... of the scep - ter...
O land... of the scep - ter...
O... land... of the scep - ter...

T1
T2
T3
T4

p

O white crown... of... the di - vine form...
O... white... crown... of... the di - vine form...
of the di -
of the di -

B1
B2
B3
B4

p

O white... crown... of the di -
of the di -

Almglocken
Log drums
Tamtams
Maracas

Marimba

pp *mf*

S1 *mf* O ho - ly res - ting place I am the child..... *ff* I am the *p subito*

S2 *mf* O ho - ly res - ting place I am the child..... *ff* I am the *p subito*

S3 *mf* O ho - ly res - ting place I am the child..... *ff*

S4 *mf* O ho - ly res - ting place I am the child..... *ff*

A1 *mf* O.... ho - ly res - tine place..... *ff* I am the child..... *p subito*

A2 *mf* O.... ho - ly res - tine place..... *ff* I am the child..... *p subito*

A3 *mf* O ho - ly res - ting place..... *ff* I am the child.....

A4 *mf* O ho - ly res - ting place..... *ff* I am the child.....

T1 *mf* I am the child..... *ff* I am the *p subito*

T2 *mf* I am the child..... *ff* I am the *p subito*

T3 *mf* I am the child..... *ff*

T4 *mf* I am the child..... *ff*

B1 vine form..... *mf* I am the child..... *ff* I am the *p subito*

B2 vine form..... *mf* I am the child..... *ff*

B3 I am the child..... *mf* *ff*

B4 I am the child..... *mf* *ff*

Almglocken

Log drums

Tamtams

Maracas

Marimba

S1
ho - ly knot.....

S2
ho - ly knot.....

S3

S4

A1
ho - ly knot..... more beau - ti - ful in bright - ness than..

A2
ho - ly knot..... more beau - ti - ful..... in bright... ness..... than..

A3
p with - in the ta - ma - risk tree.....

A4
p with - in the ta - ma - risk tree.....

T1
ho - ly knot..... more beau - ti - ful in bright - ness..... than

T2
ho - ly knot.....

T3
p with - in the ta - ma - risk tree.....

T4
p with - in the ta - ma - risk tree.....

B1
ho - ly knot.....

B2

B3

B4

Almglocken

Log drums

Tamtams
lv

Maracas

Marimba

pp *mf*

S1
S2
S3
S4

A1
A2
A3
A4

..... the disk of yes - ter - day.....

..... the disk of yes - ter - day.....

T1
T2
T3
T4

..... the disk of yes - ter - day.....

mp

yes - ter - day.

B1
B2
B3
B4

Almglocken
Log drums
Tamtams
Maracas
Marimba

mp *mf* *mp*

mf *f*

pp *mp*

lv. *lv.*

S1
S2
S3
S4

Four vocal staves (S1-S4) in treble clef. Each staff contains rests for the first two measures. At the third measure, the time signature changes from 5/4 to 4/4. The fourth measure contains another rest.

A1
A2
A3
A4

Four vocal staves (A1-A4) in treble clef. Each staff contains rests for the first two measures. At the third measure, the time signature changes from 5/4 to 4/4. The fourth measure contains another rest.

T1
T2
T3
T4

Four tambourine staves (T1-T4) in treble clef with an 8 below the clef. Each staff contains rests for the first two measures. At the third measure, the time signature changes from 5/4 to 4/4. The fourth measure contains another rest.

B1
B2
B3
B4

Four bass staves (B1-B4) in bass clef. Each staff contains rests for the first two measures. At the third measure, the time signature changes from 5/4 to 4/4. The fourth measure contains another rest.

Almglocken
Log drums
Tamtams
Maracas
Marimba

Almglocken: Treble clef, contains rhythmic notation with dynamics *sf p*, *f*, *p*, *mf*, *p*, *f*.
Log drums: Treble clef, contains rests.
Tamtams: Treble clef, contains rests and a final rhythmic pattern with dynamics *pp*.
Maracas: Treble clef, contains rests.
Marimba: Grand staff (treble and bass clefs), contains rests.

whisper mf

S1: None would bless my pre - sence None saw more than what had been or what would be

S2: None would bless my pre - sence none saw more than what had been or what would be

S3: None would bless my pre - sence None saw more than what had been or what would

S4: None would bless my pre - sence None saw more than what had been or

A1: None would bless my pre - sence None saw more than what had

A2: None would bless my pre - sence none... saw more than what had....

A3: None would bless my pre - sence None saw

A4: None would bless my pre - sence None saw more

T1: None asked to know my name

T2: None asked to

T3: (Empty staff)

T4: (Empty staff)

B1: (Empty staff)

B2: (Empty staff)

B3: (Empty staff)

B4: (Empty staff)

Almglocken: (Empty staff)

Log drums: (Empty staff)

Tamtams: *p ppp* *p* *mp* *mf* *l.v. to brushes* *l.v. to yarn mallets*

Maracas: (Empty staff)

Marimba: (Empty staff)

S1
S2
S3
S4

be
what would be

A1
A2
A3
A4

been or what would be
been or... what would be
more than what had been or what would be
than what had been or what would be

T1
T2
T3
T4
B1
B2
B3
B4

None sought a se-cret at the le-vel of my eyes None saw the word en-graved None reached for me when I fell
know my name None sought a se-cret at the le-vel of my eyes None saw the word en-graved None reached for me
None asked to know my name None sought a se-cret at the le-vel of my eyes None saw the word en-graved None
None asked None sought a se-cret at the le-vel of my eyes None saw the word en-graved None reached for me when I
None asked to know my name None sought a se-cret at the le-vel of my eyes None saw the word en-graved None
None asked to know my name None... sought a se-cret at the le-vel of my eyes None... saw the word en-graved
None asked to know my name None sought a se-cret at the le-vel of my eyes None
None asked to know my name None sought a se-cret at the le-vel of my... eyes None saw

Almglocken
Log drums
Tamtams
Maracas
Marimba

mp *pp* *mp* *pp*

S1
S2
S3
S4

I am the
I am the
I am the
I am the

A1
A2
A3
A4

T1
T2
T3
T4

back to the be - gin - ning...
when I fell back to the be - gin - ning...
reached for me when I fell back to the be - gin - ning
fell back to the be - gin - ning...

B1
B2
B3
B4

reached for me when I fell back to the... be - gin - ning...
None reached for me when I fell back to the be - gin - ning...
saw the word en - graved None reached for me when I fell back to the be - gin - ning...
the word en - graved None reached for me when I fell back to the be - gin - ning...

Almglocken
Log drums
Tamtams
Maracas

f pp

Marimba

f p

yarn mallets

mp lord of the red crown

mp None shall seize me by the arms

mp lord None shall drag me a - way

mp lord None shall drag me a - way

mp Yea I am in my egg in my

mp Yea I am in my egg in my

mp Yea I am in my egg in my

mp Yea I am in my egg in my

mp I am the sun's eye I come forth and I

mp I am the sun's eye I come forth and I

mp I am the sun's eye I come forth and I

mp I am the sun's eye I come forth and I

mf I en - ter

mf I en - ter

mf I en - ter

mf I en - ter

Almglocken

Log drums

Tamtams

Maracas

Marimba

allargando

a tempo

81

S1 I keep the ba - lence e - ven O my cre - a - tor my flame is

S2 I keep the ba - lence e - ven O my cre - a - tor my flame is

S3 I keep the ba - lence e - ven O my cre - a - tor my flame is

S4 I keep the ba - lence e - ven O my cre - a - tor my flame is

A1 egg O my cre - a - tor my flame is

A2 egg O my cre - a - tor my flame is

A3 egg my cre - a - tor my flame is

A4 egg my cre - a - tor my flame is

T1 shine my cre - a - tor my flame is

T2 shine my cre - a - tor my flame is

T3 shine

T4 shine

B1 forth and I come to life

B2 forth and I come to life

B3 forth and I come to life

B4 forth and I come to life

Almglocken

Log drums

Tamtams

Maracas

Marimba

S1 lit u - pon your face I am the one un - veiled

S2 lit u - pon your face I am the one un - veiled

S3 lit u - pon your face I am the one un - veiled

S4 lit u - pon your face I am the one un - veiled

A1 lit u - pon your face I am the one un - veiled

A2 lit u - pon your face I am the one un - veiled

A3 lit u - pon your face I am the one un - veiled

A4 lit u - pon your face I am the one un - veiled

T1 lit u - pon your face I am the one un - veiled

T2 lit u - pon your face I am the one un - veiled

T3 O my cre - a - tor..... I am the one un - veiled

T4 O my cre - a - tor..... I am the one un - veiled

B1 O my cre - a - tor..... I am the one un - veiled

B2 O my cre - a - tor..... I am the one un - veiled

B3 O my cre - a..... tor..... I am the one un - veiled

B4 O my cre - a..... tor..... I am the one un - veiled

Almglocken

Log drums

Tamtams

Maracas

Marimba