Start in the Woods - Levertov

free instrumentation

bea hebron

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Start in the Woods - Levertov

Bea Hebron
2024

Building on fragments from Denise Levertov's *Relearning the Alphabet*,
a poem Antoine invited me to swim in. It still calls to me today.

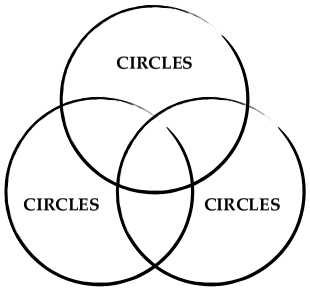
START IN THE WOODS

S

Or no: it
slowly becomes known to me:
articles of faith are indeed
rules of the will—graceless,
faithless.
The door I flung my weight against
was constructed to open out
towards me.
In-seeing
to candleflame's
blue ice-cavern, measureless,

may not be forced by sharp
desire.
The Prince
turns in the wood: 'Retrace
thy steps, seek out
the hut you passed, impatient,
the day you lost your quarry.

(BRING) an old friend **sing**
re tracing paths passing through
remembering **maybe**



~~**backwardsforwardsforwardswackwardsbackwardsforwards**~~

spinning

deep down out and about a
twist of faith offffffering (exhale)
listening listening
finding
ways finding
ways
back
in
DANCE "a forest of melodies" **dancing**

There dwells
a secret. Restore to it
its life.
You will not recognize
your desire until
thou hast it fast, it goeth
aside, it hath
the cunning of quicksilver.'

I turn in the forest.
About me the tree-multitudes
twist their roots in earth
to rip it, draw
hidden rivers up into
branch-towers.
Their crowns in the light sway
green beyond vision.
All utterance
takes me step by hesitant step towards

T

—yes, to continuance; into