

She Lost Her Voice That's How We Knew text by Valeria Vasilevski

This text has two aspects to play with.
The first part is “set” and progresses in a certain formal way.
The second part can be used as set, or broken up into shards of emotional subtext.
The second text is the reason for the first text

I

Come here, I'll let you in!
Listen! here by the keyhole.
Stoop down.
No, closer with your whole ear!
Try to get very very small and crawl in.
Into me, huddled in a sorrow ball of
silence.

Psst over here, the gate is open!
Listen! This play- garden was once
rapturous with song.
Closer, step through now.
No! run fast from my frozen landscape
Ice spiking the fury ball of silence.

Louder please! I can't hear you.
This buzzing spins my limbs and tangles
my dress.
The buzzing of 10,000 bees.
Your voice is lost in the din, reach in!
Risk everything! Snatch away the hive!

Shh! Jump in the midnight lake with me!
There's so much space beneath the stars.
There are so many fireflies tonight.
Even the frogs bounce and croak in
ecstasy.
This silence has no doors, is vast and
spacious
Is warm and complete.
(shall I croak here too?)

You are suddenly so quiet.
Fear?
Shame?
Awe at the miracle of a frog leaping
after a fireflying star?

II

My arms my ribs my legs my shins...
On top of me.
My pieces of hair.
I bit her,
Then spilled over with ash and hush.

I could have shouted “stop”
Under my cellar door,
But no voice came out.
“When bad things happen just go up to
God”

In slow motion, slowing down
I ran in circles screaming.
My shattered head lagging behind.
She lost her voice, that's how we knew.

You are suddenly so quiet.
Fear?
Shame?
Awe at the miracle of a frog leaping
after a fireflying star?

Is it forever?
Yes it is forever.