

INBOUND

Joan Rudel

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Sprightly ♩ = 72

Mezzo-Sop.

Piano

f

6

f

Sil-ver cars _____ rum-ble for-ward _____ a-long

12

mf

met-al paths pas - sing plac-es _____ that trip time back;

mp

3 3

mp *mf* 3 3

click - ing past a sta - tion now closed a sta - tion now

20 *f* *mp* *p dolce*

closed but per-pen-di - cu-lar to a road my son and I

25 *mf*

my son and I drove every Fri - day

28 *f* *mf* 3 3

to his pia - no les - son with a wo-man won-der-fully o-bli-vious to an ill-ness

INBOUND (humming)

33 *pp* *mf* *pp* *mf* *pp*

that al - most swal-lowed him. (hm) (hm)

38 *p* *accel.* *poco a poco*

al - most swal-lowed him.

pp *mp* *mf*

42 **Fast** ♩ = 86

f

46 *f*

I'd like to blame the train

mf

49

that for-ces us o-ver the same tracks,

52

wear-ing down coup - lings, dis - con-nect - ing some, _____ streng-then - ing

56

o - thers. _____ A glance at the ce - me-ter - y near Val - hal - la, _____

60

finds it more crowd-ed now than when my mo - ther was _____ bur-ied twen-ty years a - go,

Tempo primo ♩ = 72

64

rit.

f

not so dif-ferent from a stif-ling day late Au - gust my

mf

68

ff

friend touch - es her young daugh-ter's cof - - - - - fin:

f

71

ff

p

74

mp

a mo - tor cranks in - to

mp

Faster $\text{♩} = 78$

77 *accel.* *mf*

o - pen earth. _____ As we pass _____ the

81 *f*

Bronx yards, I am un-com - for-table with my un - cle who

85 *ff*

dares me at four _____ to bal - ance my walk be - tween a - ban - doned Hud-son

88 *mp* *rit.* *p* $\text{♩} = 72$

rails un - der the high - way. _____ He warns me nev - er to tell my mo - ther

92 *mp*

where I skinned my knees, splin-tered my palms.

95 **Tempo primo** ♩ = 72

f

100 *f*

Mem-ories am-bush flash-ing like sta-tions blurred in no sen-si-ble

105 *mf*

or-der. My bo - dy fac-es straight a - head

mp

109 *mp* *mf* 3 3

straight in - to the tun - nel deep un - der the ci - ty where I grew

113 *ff* 5 *p* 5

up, where my son waits and where with no-thing but dark-ness

117

- band-its jump in.

122 *f* spoken whisper

band - its jump in.