

3. Whither Shall I Go

from "I Will Trust in Thee Forever"

1 Nephi 16:18-23

Lehi, Laman, Lemuel, Sam, Nephi, Abner, Caleb

CJ Madsen

With Gnawing Desperation ♩ = 168

Lehi **Laman**

[The family enters as the brothers return.] *mp* La - man, ex - plain this! We were hunt - ing

6 **Nephi** **Lemuel**

up the moun - tain, Lem - uel spot - ted ea - sy prey. All their bows have lost their springs! That's

11 **Laman**

no ex - cuse for you to - day! Ne - phi pulled his bow too harsh - ly. One big crack, and

16

no - thing now can heal _____ this steel! _____

The score consists of four systems, each with a Tenor Bass (TB) line and a Piano (Pno.) line. The TB line contains the vocal melody and lyrics, while the Pno. line contains the piano accompaniment. The music is in a 7/8 time signature and a key signature of three flats. The tempo is marked 'With Gnawing Desperation' at 168 beats per minute. The score includes dynamic markings such as *mp* and *p*, and articulation like slurs and accents. The lyrics are: 'La - man, ex - plain this! We were hunt - ing up the moun - tain, Lem - uel spot - ted ea - sy prey. All their bows have lost their springs! That's no ex - cuse for you to - day! Ne - phi pulled his bow too harsh - ly. One big crack, and no - thing now can heal _____ this steel! _____'. The systems are numbered 6, 11, and 16.

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21 *Lehi* *Nephi* *Lehi* [Sam runs off to check food stores and quickly returns.] *Caleb*

TB
Ne - phi, that was rash and clum - sy! Fa - ther, we all tried our best! Not a sin - gle scrap of meat? We're

Pno.

27 *Lemuel* *Lehi* *Sam*

TB
all fa - tired. And you need rest. You won't sleep. Go back and hunt! Sup - plies are low. We

Pno.

32 *Laman*

TB
With no work - ing bow, _____ Whi - ther shall we go, shall we

Lemuel, Abner, Caleb, Sam

TB
near - ly have no food. _____ No food! _____

Pno.

37

TB
go? _____ Whi - ther shall we go? _____

f *Top to bottom: Sam, Abner, Lemuel, Caleb*

TB
Men are suf - f'ring, wo - men star - ving, We shall sure - ly die! _____ We need food and ba - bies milk, Oh,

Pno.

43

Whi - ther shall we go?

Nephi *Lehi*

we shall sure - ly die! Com - plain - ing just does no - thing! Tell me, Lord on high:

Pno.

8^{va} 8^{va}-1

49

mp.

Lord, why? We have fol - lowed, we are wor - thy. We have heed - ed

[The next parts of the song play out as a montage showing the passage of time. The brothers flit on and off stage as they search for food. The family can be onstage or off, in increasing degrees of despondency.]

Pno.

mp

8^{va} 8^{va} 8^{va}

55

each com - mand. This is not what I call "pros - per." This is not the pro - mised land.

Pno.

8^{va} 8^{va}

60

Laman *Lehi* *Abner* [to his wife Adi]

No food, Fa - ther! Fools! Keep search - ing! If he was a pro - phet, He'd di - vine,

Pno.

8^{va} 8^{va} 8^{va}

65 *Lehi*

TB: Not whine! Are we now cast off for - ev - er?

Pno.

70 *Nephi* *Lehi* *Nephi*

TB: Fa - ther, we must trust in God. God's shut up His ten - der mer - cies. Fa - ther, hold the i - ron rod!

Pno.

76 *Lehi* *Sam* *Lehi*

TB: Plates of brass can't feed my chil - dren! Stores are gone, so now we have no food. God laughs at us be -

Pno.

81 *f*

TB: low. Whi - ther shall we go, shall we go? *Laman, Lemuel, Abner, Caleb, Sam (Laman top with Sam)* [to Lehi]

TB: No food! Where are all your dreams and vis ions?

Pno. *f*

86

Whi-ther shall we go? Whi-her shall we go?

Nephi

We shall sure-ly die! Thou hast led us forth to per-ish. We shall sure-ly die! If you are

Pno.

8^{va}

93

still a pro - phet, Stop your mur - m'ring cry! Lord, why?

Lehi
mp

Pno.

8^{va}

98

[Nephi is shown in an aside with a new bow and other equipment.] *Nephi*
mp

Out of wood I make a bow, From a stick an ar - row straight.

Pno.

105

rit.

Fa-ther, bro-thers all gone mad. Leave them to their fate! Lord, with bow and sling and stones. Hear my cry and

Pno.

3. Whither Shall I Go

112 *a tempo* [Nephi listens, stunned as the Spirit speaks.]

TB show _____ Whi - ther shall I go? _____

Pno. *mp*

119

TB

Pno. [Return to the action at centerstage. The family is lying in starving agony.]

126 *mp* *Laman* *Lemuel*

TB Three days gone with - out a crust. In three days more we're not a - live.

Pno. *8va*

131 *mf* *Sam* *Abner and Caleb* [Toddler Jacob whines to Lehi.] *f* *Lehi*

TB Milk has dried up for my child. Your bro - ther Jo - seph won't sur - vive. Ja - cob, yes, I

Pno. *mf* *f* *8va*

136 *Lehi* **f** [to the Lord]

Laman and Sam (T), Abner and Lemuel (B1), Caleb (B2) Thou bring - est on - ly wo! _____

know you're hun - gry. We're all hun - gry, we shall sure - ly die! _____ Sure - ly

Pno.

8^{va}

141

Whi - ther shall we go, shall we go? _____

Divisi as before

die! _____ By the hand of rav - 'ning hun - ger We shall sure - ly

Pno.

8^{va} **f** 8^{va} 8^{va}

146

Whi - ther shall we go? _____ Whi - ther shall we go?

die! _____ We are weak, and we are parched. Oh, we shall sure - ly die! _____ Here's my

[Nephi enters.] Lehi

Pno.

8^{va} 8^{va}

152

TB

clum - sy son. Come to watch me die?

Pno.

Slower ♩ = 69

158

Nephi

TB

p I've made an ar - row straight, Out of wood a bow.

Pno.

p

164

TB

Oh, Fa - ther, I'm sor - ry. Whi - ther shall I go?

Pno.