



The Moon is Like a Curlew

lyrics by Giles Watson
music by Kathryn Wheeler

With a free sense of tempo, sometimes speeding up, sometimes slower, sometimes with longer gaps between phrases. At all times quite otherworldly! Sing unaccompanied or with a drone, or alternatively with very gentle arpeggios carefully timed with the words. Use glissandi (sliding) between notes for effect (some suggestions are marked).

(drone:A&E)

The moon is like a cur - lew that flits from stone to stone: it

8 (drone:Bb&F)

rose be - hind the crag last night, but this night it has flown. The moon

14

is like a cur - lew im - poss - i - ble to touch, a gleam, a voice, an

20 (drone:A&E)

e - cho too shy for men to catch. A cu - ckoo's like a ru - mour that

26 (drone:Bb&F)

walls cann - ot con - tain: a voice no net can capt - ure, an in - tan - gi - ble re - frain. A

32

cu - ckoo's like a ru - mour kept by a haw - thorn tree: it comes with - out a

37 (drone:A&E)

war - ning but it ne - ver stays for me. You can - not catch a cur - lew,

43 (drone: Bb & F) (unaccompanied)

or cage the fi - ckle moon; you can - not trap a cu - ckoo and

49

su - mmer's gone to soon.