

Oregon Trail Journal

Inzer Byers

Joelle Wallach

$\text{♩} = 84$ *mp*

Two things _____ we wo - men no - tice most a -

4

long the trail: one _____ the al - most end - less line of a - ban - doned house - hold things.

7 *poco f*

Ea - sy _____ at first, choos - ing what to leave _____ to light - en

10 *mp* *f*

wa - gons: hea-vy pots, that ex - tra chest, things — ex-pend-³a - ble.

13 *p* *mp*

La - ter leav - ings — get har - der: my mo - ther's ro - cker —

16 *f* *subito p*

al - ways home's cen - ter, now left rock - ing a - lone on the dus - ty trail - side

19 *mp*

The o - ther thing — we wo - men

21

poco f

no - tice most: the graves, _____ a - lone or clus - tered. _____

23

sotto voce *poch. portamento*

We speak spar-ing-ly of them, la - co - nic jour - nal en - tries:

25

poch. declamato

two miles, _____ three graves; _____ four miles, _____ two graves; five miles, se - ven graves.

28

p

At first _____ we're just re - cord-ing.

31

Then comes the sick - ness; our own deaths be-gin. Quick-dug, a hur-ried prayer,

34

hard-ly a mar-ker, no _____ time for mourn-ing, _____ al - ways the need for mov-ing

37

on. All things che-rished left be - hind, blest

40

be the tie _____ that griev - ing binds. Graves look dif-f'rent with a fa-mi -

43

poco lontano

liar name. All things che-rished left be-hind.

46

Blest be the tie that griev-ing binds, link to link, hearts'

49

leav-ings.

52