

## FOUR

*A change in the lighting.*

*The fingers of the left hand, still affixed to the chair, have become slightly more cramped. Otherwise, same as before.*

In that huge  
Symmetrical place, our movements  
Could not help  
But echo one another's. On the curves of those redundant  
Marble stairways, in the aisles  
Between the repeated  
Rows  
Of benches and lockers, on one largely  
Indistinguishable  
Side or the other of the balcony, or the floor—we could hardly  
Go anywhere, do anything, without  
Repeating, reflecting  
Inverting  
Or anticipating  
What one of the others  
Had just done, was doing, or was getting ready  
To attempt.

Path recapitulated path, and stroll  
Commented  
Upon stroll—not on purpose, we couldn't help it—  
Any move  
We made, or refrained  
From making seemed to imitate,  
Mock, punctuate  
Or reinforce someone else's movement or momentary  
Pause—as if with every  
Step  
And gesture we were making  
Music, as if we had become, the four of us, four  
Unconscious  
And accidental musicians, an aleatory  
Ensemble, performing  
An uncoordinated set of variations—for quartet  
And train station—on the theme

Of restlessness  
Restricted.

*(He listens.)*

Now harsh...  
Now plaintive... and now...  
Almost soothing, this song, the four-voiced  
Random  
Song we played—it lived outside the sense of hearing—it found  
Its harmonies  
And rhythms not only in the few  
Odd noises we happened to make, but in everything  
We did—it united  
In itself, this uncomposed  
Composition, the most incommensurable  
Things—footsteps  
Going up or down worn  
Marble stairs, and the moments  
When one of us  
Would move into shadow, just as another  
Moved out, the rustle  
Of coats  
Against suitcases, and the rhyme patterns of chin-stroking,  
Leg-crossing, and a dozen other  
Nervous gestures. It even  
Managed, this music, to make a pair of the pool  
Of light that fell  
From an exit  
Sign above an impenetrable  
Locked  
Door, and the creak  
Of an old  
Wooden bench—that one, over there—that has just  
Been sat upon.