

一日の終わり

古い公会堂の階段にすわり
運河の流れの速さをみつめている
対岸の店屋で赤い服の女が
客に水を注いでまわっている

めずらしい建物の鐘が鳴り
カラスの帰り道
蹴られた缶けりの空き缶が石畳を転がっていく
水たまりのボールが青く光った

しんしんと しんしんと
繕うような調子で
夕闇案内人がむかえにやってきて
ろうろうと ろうろうと
ふくろうみたいな鳴き声で
子供たちを家に帰す

広場のあたりをうろついていたら
パン屋の老い猫が怪訝な顔して横切った
嘘つきの男と身持ちのいい女
ヒゲのおまわりはドレスの踊り子に夢中

魚売りのポルトが近づいて行ったよ 古い遊技場
黒づくめの太っちょが相棒に目配せして
ついていった
急にあたりが暗くなった

こつこつと こつこつと
スープみたいな様子で
いそぎ足いつの間にか走り出した
ひょうひょうと ひょうひょうと
ふざけているみたいな音たてて
夜の風がいじわるに笑った

一日中着たきりの重いマントをぬいで
くたびれた革靴をストーブの前におく
さっきおどかしてやった男の子はもう家に
ついた頃かなって口にして 椅子に深く腰をおろす

残っていたチーズとフランスパン ワインは温めて
靴の手入れは明日にするとして
やりかけのボトルシップにとりかかるとするか
階段の上闇がすこし笑った

ざくざくと ざくざくと
銅を掘るみたいな調子で
小さなやつらがそれは陽気にのぼってきて
かさかさど かさかさど
夜の帳が歩き去って
世界はようやっと眠りについたとき

End of a Day

A boy has been watching the flow of a canal for hours sitting on the steps of an old auditorium. On the opposite side of the canal, there is a restaurant, where a woman in a red dress walked through customers' tables to fill their glass with water.

From there, the boy can see a notable building. When its renowned huge bell rings, crows take their way back home.

Someone kicked an empty can rolling it down the stone pavement.

In a puddle, a ball gleamed blue.

Then Night Navigator appears from nowhere.

Shin, shin, shin – in a sawing rhythm, he approaches.

Row, row, row – he hoots in owl's way to scare kids to go home.

The boy doesn't feel like going home right away and is wandering around in a town square. An old cat of the bakery frowns at him when it passes by. The boy sits beside the fountain and watches people. A suspicious man is talking to a fine woman. The town cop with mustache is chasing around a lady dancer in a frilly dress.

Then he finds a friend, Porto, a boy working at the fish market, approaching to a crumbling gambling house. A fat man in his black suit is also watching Porto from the other side. The guy winks at his buddy and they follow Porto.

Suddenly it's got dark.

The boy is scared bit and starts to think about his mother and her soup.

Kotsu, kotsu, kotsu – he walks in hurry, soon into running.

Hyo, hyo, hyo – in a mocking way, the night air laughed at him spitefully.

At the Night Navigator's flat.

He undressed his heavy coat and put worn-out shoes in front of the fireplace,

He talked to himself.

“Well, the kid I scared before would have been home by now.”

Then he seated himself deeply to an armchair.

“Let's see what I have for my supper. I have cheese and baguette.

OK, I can warm up this wine”

The man looks at his shoes but didn't start polishing it. Instead he moved to the shelf and picked up a bottle ship that he had been working on for months.

Something giggled in darkness upstairs.

Zaku, zaku, zaku - something small is climbing up on him in a jollily way in a rhythm of digging copper.

Kasa, kasa, kasa – it's the sound when Night walked away.

Thus, the whole world, in the end of the day, has fallen asleep.