Nihad Mešić River, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Taming Fear

During my whole life I look
How to Tame Fear
To make it an ally,
instead of enemy.

When the nightmares
Wake me from dream
To be able to sleep again
Without difficulties,
With light turned off.

So I keep trying
But, the fear is trying too.
Old Thief does not give up,
It spites me impudently.
Nevertheless, I do not give in.

Taming Fear is a process
some people call life.
If Today were Yesterday

If today were a couple of months ago,
I would have been rejoicing vacation.
If today were a couple of years ago,
I would have searched for love.
If today were a couple of decades ago,
I would have trusted people.
If today were yesterday,
I would have dreamed about you, Life!
JANUARY NIGHT

If you were with me now,
As you are not,
We would be warmed
By Bosnian home-made rakia.

If you were with me now,
As you are not,
We would have watched
Through the window,
Romantic sight
Of the wind and snow playing.

If you were with me now,
As you are not,
We would have comforted each other
Hugging.

Then some sense would have been found.
I am still here

I am not interested
In “twilight of the West”.
and “aggressive East”.
I don’t like barricades.
Or masses charging at barricades.
I feel the whole World
And peoples mine,
Though I am not allowed to.

So, I am not adapted.
I do not fit in,
And I wouldn’t like to be
Always same,
thinking and living same.
Until it is so,
I am still here.
From Kovači to Jewish Municipality (Sarajevo 2012)

I pass by Sarajevo streets.
Somehow, everything reminds me on 1984.
Orwell.
Olympics.
I feel like the stonestreet
on which I go down
from Kovači
over the snow-melting Miljacka
to the Jewish Municipality,
covered with concrete
up to half.
Hopefully, once they would
remove this burden
of my chest.
Of our chests.
So my stones
come to expression.

On the occasion of the "Poetry Marathon" on 20/21 March 2012 in Sarajevo.

Translated to English by Nihad Mešić