

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
水たまりのポールが青く光った

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
かさかさと かさかさと
夜の帳が歩き去って
世界はようやっと眠りについたとさ

End of a Day

A boy had 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 was a restaurant, where a woman in a red dress walked through customers' tables to fill their glass with water.

From there, the boy could see a notable building. When its renowned huge bell rang, crows took their way back home.

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

In a puddle, a ball gleamed blue

Then Night Navigator appears from nowhere.

Shin, shin, shin – the way he approaches, it's like sawing.

Row, row, row – he hoots like an owl to scare kids to go home.

The boy didn't feel like going home and was wandering around for a while. An ugly old cat the bakery owned made a frown face toward him when he passed by. He sat on the fountain at the town square and watching people. A fraud talking to a woman, the mustache town cop crazy about a lady dancer in a frilly dress.

Then he noticed there his friend, Porto, a boy working at fish market, approaching to a dilapidated gambling house. There was one more person who was watching Porto. A fat man in his black suit. The guy winked his pal and followed Porto.

Suddenly it got dark.

*The boy is scared bit and starts to think about mom and her soup.
Kotsu, kotsu, kotsu – he walks in hurry, soon into running.
Hyo, hyo, hyo – 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.

"Hum, the kid would have been home by now."

Then he seated himself deeply to an armchair.

"Let's see what I have for my supper. I've got cheese, bread though it's bit old... and wine... maybe I should warm this tonight."

The man glanced a pair of worn-out 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 like they are 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.