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Morning among the Trees

In the forceful fine dust
 That showers down from the blue fountain
 On my palms are hot poppies
 Withered branches already dark ripe
 Early wounds and crows
 From a jump that never falls into any sweetness
 The flower of a vanished smile Live barefooted desires
 And there is the dear moisture in the depth of a dark eye
 And the venom of the grass strand of a still awakening autumn hair
 And something from the hands of trust that carry and lead
 When they navigate the stars they defy
 Beyond blue, real blue
 That will not become reality So for whom then is
 This blood For whom are these daring flowers
 For whom these poor legs that at times hobble
 But while hobbled never kneel
 The slim property of one who loves
 When he swears and begs for a promised light
 Even when it has passed From some great river
 It is there Upright it flows
 In the eternal leap merciless For itself and for me
 Not blurred, No but absent From it she does not flee
 Then waiting futilely it connects us madly Squeezes
 And hurts constantly
 Because this morning it is born in the trees and does not bring us together
 Double-faced as the past evening

Note: The abstruse poem, we think, is an allusion to when Odysseus awakes in the morning hearing Nausicaa playing with her maids. He emerges naked from the forest before the daughter of the Phaeacian King, Alcinous. The two are smitten holding a love interest never expressed. Unlike her maids, Nausicaa, however, does not flee from Odysseus. She has him bathed, clothed, and fed before taking him to her home, wondering if he might become her husband. The goddess Athena, Nausicaa's shadow, plays matchmaker.

See: [The Greek Spirit in the Poetry of Mak Dizdar](#)

Translated by Keith Doubt and Bojana Vuković with E. Wayles Browne

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