

# Spirit of Bosnia / Duh Bosne

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## Signature

*Something has changed between me and people since I became a parent to one of them. - Paul Claudel*

I'm running home with my little daughter -  
again, shells have surprised us on the street.  
Shells have, for centuries, been falling every day,  
and every time they surprise us.  
I'm hurrying her on with angry words:  
transferring my rage from the Serb gunners  
to a child awaited for ten years.  
Let me write my name, she tells me, as we pass  
a patch of virgin snow in the park.  
Instead of scolding her,  
I—God knows why—let her forefinger  
break the delicate whiteness,  
and then, around the Cyrillic IVANA VEŠOVIĆ  
my forefinger describes a circle,  
impenetrable.

Like in fairy-tales.

*Translated by Omer Hadžiselimović - © 2008 Omer Hadžiselimović*

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