

Spirit of Bosnia / Duh Bosne

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Bosnia II

Jozefina Dautbegovi?

When children from Bosnia ascend to Allah

falling asleep peacefully in Christ

they don't need a passport any more

A black stamp suffices

at all border crossings

They quickly learn

Happiness is Kitsch

Antique furniture, Wiehler gobelins

with a field of poppies

make quite a nice bonfire

A proof of existence cogito ergo sum

Salt manufacturing in Bosnia

is done by dehydrating tears

They are stored in pools under the facial bone

Children in Bosnia learn quickly

hands-on education over an open grave

chemical processes, decay of material, and evidence

that even after life

fingerprints and toenails still grow

A humanitarian corridor is unnecessary
They get food by recycling from bins
Children in Bosnia play hopscotch
with just one foot
Gravity guarantees their balance
They kiss each other in graveyards between two ethnic cleansings
which Europe sternly condemns
On a wound they put lily oil and plantain leaves
They kiss under the crosses in the shade of Muslim headstones
and quickly learn
The internationally recognized
boundaries of mindlessness
are unchangeable
The only thing that worries children in Bosnia is JUDGEMENT DAY
It will come
God has confirmed his attendance
And promised to respect the decisions of the Hague Convention
And how will our children from Bosnia
before the face of justice
stand up so long
on crutches

tr. W. Browne 2025/01/30

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