

# Spirit of Bosnia / Duh Bosne

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## Never say

Mile Stojić

Never say things can't be worse  
They can

Never say things were never worse  
They were

If people didn't reach the peak of the hill  
they touched the bottom of the abyss

Where what has befallen you  
is a bagatelle

Chocolate calls for raspberries  
pick them

The homeland calls for sons  
bear them

Your lover longs for shackles  
forge them

The black earth yearns for graves  
dig them

What wise books have made  
is tiny

What foolish books have done  
is weighty

Poor is the stock of loving words  
rich is the stock of torments

Mighty is the wrath of Zeus  
weak is the outcry of Jesus

Never say: things can't be worse

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They can

Never say: things were never worse

They were

Translated by E. Wayles Browne

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