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That Man

Ćamil Sijarić

That man
with the badge on his cap -
so all would know who he is,
sat calmly on a chair.
And just as calmly,
he stabbed a knife into the table -
so all would know who he is.
And for now, nothing: his knife stays there,
he sits calmly there -
and for now, nothing: except that in the café,
a lamp still burns
on the beam.
Outside, it's a beautiful night.
If the windows were opened,
moonlight would pour in -
and for now, nothing: except
no one speaks.

Translated by Esma Hadžiselimović

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