

Mariana Eftimie Kabbout

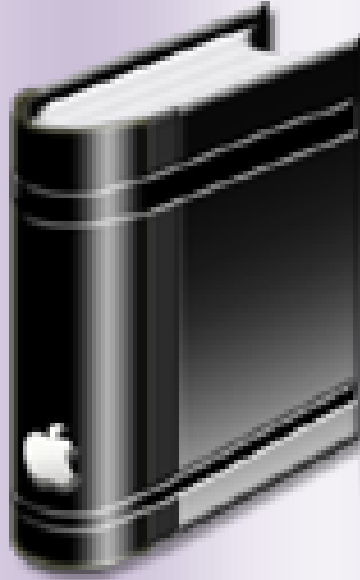
English Poems

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*True happiness is not hidden
in something you never had.
But only in what you deserve.*

Mariana EFTIMIE KABBOUT

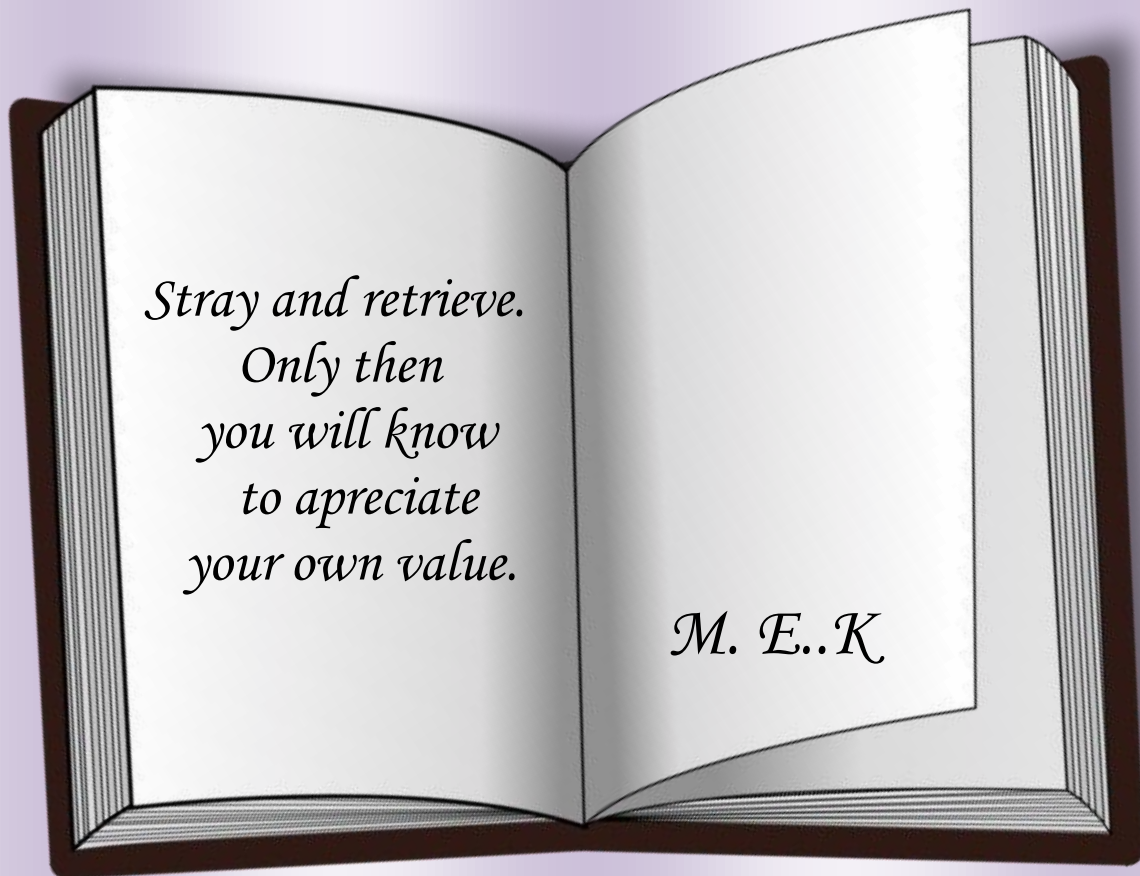




*What's life, my dear soul,
A sweet and bitter madness?*

*And what's the world, poor traveller,
The sum of solitudes?*

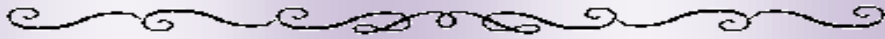
Mariana EFTIMIE KABBOUT



*Stray and retrieve.
Only then
you will know
to appreciate
your own value.*

M. E..K

Mariana Eftimie Kabbout



Love, rosy dream...

*O, love... my rosy, rosy dream,
How could I ever make you beam?*

*You are the innocence of flight,
You are the sweetest child of light,
Free and unfettered , black feline,
Haven for water, cold, divine,*

*Rustle and sultry, the ripe season,
In any woman's candid liaison,
The water's crystal purling sweet
And wave and satin rustle meet,*

*The delicate thrill's own saps
From thoughts onto the lips draw maps,
And very few still know you have
At fingers' ends a slice of rev...*

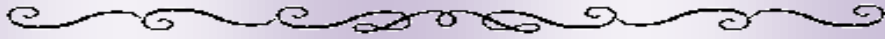
*You, Love... no word alive and born
To tell me when you blow the horn,
As people from the past knew not
If you do come and stay a lot ...*

*My words are poor and I know,
How could I ever speak you low ?
And your name comes from afar...
You, Love, my sweetest dream alive,*

I found you, I wonder... or you did bar?

Translated by Carmen Racoviță

Mariana Eftimie Kabbout



What does my tear say to you, my Love?

*What does my tear say to you, my dear ?
It lies and says that autumn is a sigh
When you are embers in the fireplace, so near,
And me, a quincy flavor by a glass of wine?*

*What could a dewdrop tell you, I may ask
When it has never made a word or call?
And how can it divide the soul for the task
So your body could nothing feel at all?*

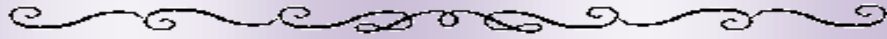
*Save now what's left to find and be saved in me!
The void that seems so closely welded in the slit,
Resounds with surreptitious echoes, see
Which I've chased away, but they refused to split.*

*It's autumn... it's autumn again, my word !
Put me together from all the parts I'm made of
And on a crystal tray, bring me the light of Lord,
I so desire, oh, how much I long for love!*

*There will be no more rebellious springs,
My pulse will be no longer faltering and hurled...
I am the one to know what my love brings,
My sweetheart, poised between reality and dreamworld...*

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Mariana Eftimie Kabbout



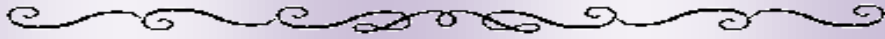
From what remained

*What am I looking now on a water's sheen,
With my poor arms opened towards your seas?
When in the nights so hidden and so diamantine
You have only remained a feeble touch of keys?*

*White-black? Yes, white. Just white and so much blue
Is flowing like a river over the puny reeds...
But why your embraces become, beyond the truth,
Hungry and thirsty brutes?... O, God, a lot of needs
veil your body...*

*What oblivion does it come from, you mean?
Then say how many longings will start to drink again
From what remained there, onto the water's sheen?
Poor arms, poor open arms towards you, my man.....*

Mariana Eftimie Kabbout



Sometimes

*Sometimes I wish to be a tear
Only to glance in your eyes...
A silver drop so pure, so clear,
Which makes your depth to sing and rise.*

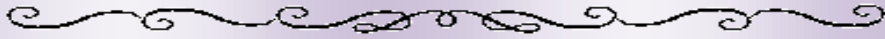
*Another time I want to be
On your lips, a thirsty breath...
Then you will sip and drive me
Over the dusk, beyond the death.*

*The most of times, o, yes, I dream,
I dream you with my open eyes...
My sunshine, what I should have been
If I could live not only once but twice?*

*Dreaming sometimes what fate would bring
I feel... the time weeps among my fingers
Like a delusive sand through a flowers ring,
Like a precious melody of two ephemeral singers.*

*No regret, no distance, no sadness, no fear...
As time as you are the world
 where I can be a tear...*

Mariana Eftimie Kabbout



The Last Night

*The rain's pouring...O, God, why can't I stop the race,
Thinking of your kiss from the last night's sad breath?
The smile of freedom froze deep on my face,
Your hand's touch burns and freezes me to death...*

*Absurdly does the wind absorb me
And longing drinks my blood on fire.
Under my lashes, the sky is roaring.
Under my feet, the earth keeps crying.
Why would I share you with Night,
when you taste my being so good, my sire?
How many lives I need to have
my fate forgiven after so much lying?*

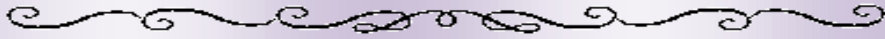
*I pawn my hope, I freely give my chamber up to you
Where your shadow walks arm in arm with the sweet rain
My last sin is if I still keep in mind, and I do,
Your hungry touch on my hot breast waiting in vain...*

*I sell my very last night to a crazy ghost's charms.
Pay cash (Oh, God!) with your face, my love-in-rhyme...
My flight is useless. On my waxen arms,
You will be born by rain, for the thousandth time...*

*And even if your love would crush me to the core,
Hit by its whip I'd like to be some more...*

Translated by Carmen Racoviță

Mariana Eftimie Kabbout



Reality (I)

*Nothing from Heaven does hurt or dig so deep
Than plain stupidity or lies that destroy so eager..
You, feeble grain...Air , earth and water leap
And have you all, while eternity belongs to your shadow figure.*

*Nothing as simple as love and true fidelity is writ'
To be for ever sweet and give you peace and go...
You may question the Fate, if you feel like it
But not the God who wrote your verdict long ago.*

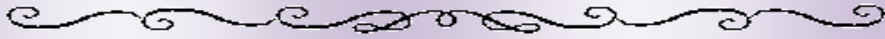
*Destroy the mountains you make for, so sadly,
Turn over Milky Ways if you think you are a lance
Then start counting the years you have lost and maybe
What you've missed awhile will be no longer a silenced dance.*

*Be, then, the pollen in the edelweiss that springs from rocks well-clad
And be the fine raindrop when rain asks you to
Don't wait for love, you do make love instead
As after and before, it's pure pain, believe me, do...*

*You may count twice the trifles you possess, no one's to blame
If you get bathed in poverty anon
You can no longer ask from Life to be set in a frame
Because Life is the very painting you've been painted on!*

Translated by Carmen Racoviță

Mariana Eftimie Kabbout



Beyond the Paradise

*I cannot hold you more than a life time,
Hey, wild moment, what's your desire?
To let me be a torch, an ice-winged angel
Or just a pitiful hostage deluding fire?*

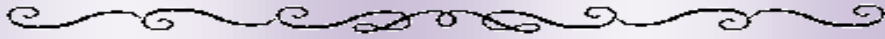
*I wish not to be caught counting the years
Through the horologe, old crazy figures chasing
While the longings tan my arms like chestnuts
Beneath which innocent steps I've taken smiling*

*I only could uncover rapid departures
Over the peaks of Life always so gray...
My eye - a nimble soul which is still asking
God, where are my beloved? O, where are they?*

*Forsaken whispers over the pale light
Then your strained body now is kneeling
And praying like a humble to my roots
Not for my triumph, but only for enduring.*

*The flame has never been the essence of fire!
And you will never know, oh, fruitless tree...
Through you, I've got the answer of my question:
Beyond the Paradise, what can there be... ?*

Mariana Eftimie Kabbout



The foam of a wave

*I'm the foam of the wave
Which floods the edge of a shackled soul,
Protecting dreams by storm which rave
And letting them to never fall*

*I'm the salt which always heals
And never brings a tear or pain...
Turning the stones into the pearls,
And the hurricane in a mild rain.*

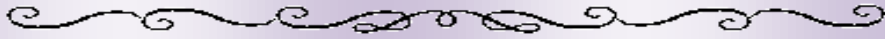
*If perfect chances passed by
And I can feel a heart is broken,
I break a strip from the clear sky
To write with it a love unspoken*

*I move the hills from here to there
Making to smile even a plastic doll...
For everyone, from anywhere,
I haven't body, just mind and soul.*

*For what you want to see my face?
It is like yours... just pain and sin...
Facing the end after a grim race,
I'll only lose when the death will win.*

*No one has taught me how to be
And now, from nothing, what can I save?
I'll never dream to be a sea...
I'm just the foam of a wave...*

Mariana Eftimie Kabbout



Drive me

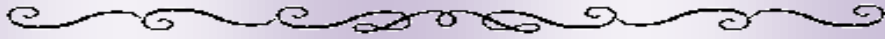
*Drive me to a distant place
Where a secret king of smile
Reigns into an abstract space
Spreaded on a dusty file*

*Drive me between rain and fire,
Teach me how to rise and sing
In the top of a grandiose spire
Where my dreams started to swing.*

*Drive me through a sound and letter
That's the paradise I love!
Horizons, pieces of paper,
Torn by the shout of a lonely dove*

*I'll drive myself to my rightful death
As it is an endless summer...
Then my soul will start to breath
Oh, reckless soul... fanatic runner...!*

Mariana Eftimie Kabbout



Rebel memory

What does a ruthless longing mean?...

*The words are breathing through my skin
But there's no one to explain
How you can slide, drain by drain,
So slowly... from my thought... on lips...*

O, night and longing, killing whips....

*What does the path of a tear hide?
Silentness... always by my side...
I rise and fall before I rise...
The payment? Yes. The same price.*

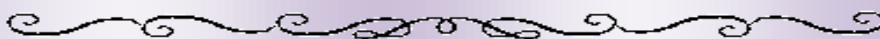
*What's your reason, fatal sin?
Blind words... deep signs on my skin...*

*The emptiness of soul is sure
An endless pain... real torture...*

*Unfair life, twinkle for me...
Once more to learn once more to be
Last perfect sound... same heart...
Unveil dream... unending start...*

*The ruthless longing then will be
An ancient castle of a rebel memory...*

Mariana Eftimie Kabbout



I remind you

*Do you remember when you told me that I'm very much like rain,
When from a cloud you were caressing it, thinking it was me?
Stray drops are lashing, breaking you into little rocks, so plain
Running at sunrise on a leaf touched by my kiss, let be.*

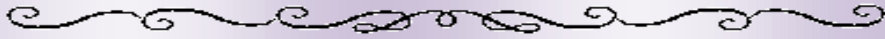
*I remember when I was calling you in a Death-like sleep,
When you were killing demons with your hands, on a cold mind
Not even a small answer could bring you from afar and reap
Not even rain would fill the moment you often leave behind.*

*You remind me I couldn't find a name for you, my dear,
And I so badly cursed the Fate's brush that painted me as rain
When, leaving grey behind, I was drowning in your tear
Infinite springs that carried you so neat along waves' lane.*

*I remind you I won't be your autumn or winter, not at all!
Perhaps I'm your sweet summer which brought you here from afar, I guess
You wipe off skies with your hand, I shall for ever stop the tempest, tall
Let us forget all this, my love....I'm not your rain, but your sun, oh, yes!*

Translated by Carmen Racoviță

Mariana Eftimie Kabbout



The shadow of your soul

*I found myself in the middle of a perfect sphere
Drawing a shadow with a troubled look and grizzled hair.
It started to climb towards the top of a golden pyramid
There's the place where my dreams are hanging by a frail thread.*

*Even the shadows never talk, I can hear a voice...
- If you want to paint with black or white, what's your choice?
- Who's talking there, who are you? ... I've asked with fear...
- Don't be afraid...I'm your wild soul, my dear..*

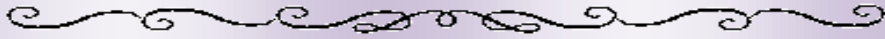
*Tangled questions rush suddenly in my empty mind.
Where's the light, where, God?... or perhaps I'm blind ?
What I need, a chance, new face or another name ?
'Cause I don't know what to choose, I remain the same.*

*In the obscure mirrors of time an answer seems to be found
Then I see the trace of my bleeding soles on the blessed ground...
Clumsy hands still paint a shadow
which says like an enchanting artist:*

Love is an art... life is a dream...

*... and me, your soul, just a dancer on a bridge covered by mist...
... but you couldn't be loved if I wasn't ever exist!*

Mariana Eftimie Kabbout



The game of the truth

*Let's play a game...
The game of the truth.*

*Today, I am... you.
And you... my mind.
If I will be a prisoner inside of it,
what will you do?*

*Will you drive me away?
Will you ask me to stay?
Will you keep me as a memory
at the door of your thought?
or maybe not...?*

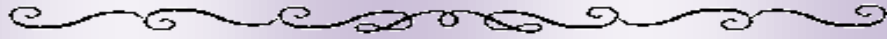
*Poor slaves of our souls,
we can't even change the roles!*

*Sellers of illusions,
and martyrs of a crazy love
adopted by abyss...*

That's all what we were.

*...nothing more
than
unknown faces of a passing bliss...*

Mariana Eftimie Kabbout



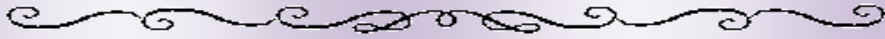
Sentence

*One right, two left...
one left, two right...
so gentle steps
inside of light.
No chance to lose
no hope to win
eternity
beyond the sin.*

*The trace of thorn,
a passing torment...
a piece of mind,
witness of moment.
scars in the back ,
dreams on the way
mystery, challenge,
and one more day...*

*Two right, two left,
a tender valse
as we are born to know it!
False!
We teach it fast
dancing in dust
The last sentence...
we'll be ... a past!*

Mariana Eftimie Kabbout



Wings

*I taste the honey
from the bottom of the second
seeing
how patient you are, eternity...*

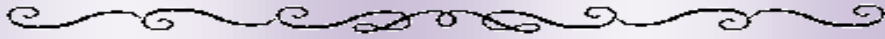
*you stay leaning against a dream
waiting for me to be born...*

*turn me back
into the womb of tenderness,
and into the happiness
that learned
how to be silent...*

and don't give me your name....

*but only
these wings
which belong to me...*

Mariana Eftimie Kabbout



Tears or flowers?

*Of arguments, the world is full and right,
Plain excuses do we lack most of the time.
Justice is too far off from real light,
Love stories die on their way, all on a dime.*

*Born without time, though there's always time
To keep us well for thousand lives in rows.
One of the greatest questions and a pastime
Is life, a bow. We are but mere arrows.*

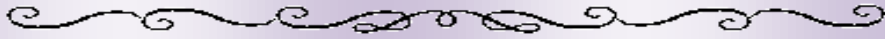
*The way to nowhere is our goal and we beckoned,
The stones under the feet are a lively past...
Meteorites that snow among the seconds,
What's left of us ? Such early planets and so vast.*

*And all the rich with their tens of manors,
Tomorrow may turn poor and tormented beggars.
Taking with them regrets in the last hour:
Regrets they hadn't been here for ever.*

*And I wonder why we think eternity as ours,
If we don't know what it is all about : tears or flowers?*

Translated by Carmen Racoviță

Mariana Eftimie Kabbout



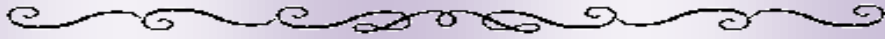
There...

*Are my tears sweeter if I cry smiling?
Is my smile longer if I think of you?
Have you ever been here? Why is my heart singing
Still longing about, real love and truth?*

*Sweep my thought away, ruthless thunderbolt!
Plunder cold rivers, mistress of my soul!
The only thing I have? Death. Take it, if you want!
Dress with it the body of a crystal doll!*

*Frozen whispers running... desert on my skin...
Stolen kisses floating... autumn, endless song...
On the other side, are the springs still green?
Will I even there to the rain belong?*

Mariana Eftimie Kabbout



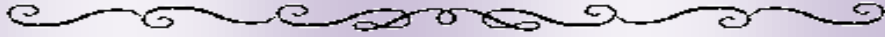
Sing me

*Sing me in unwritten lyrics
Like a mystery or romance-story
And the end won't be sweet glory
Of death or life's pleasure tricks.*

*Sing to me, sing to me, tender lord,
Loves forgotten in idea's essence...
With the charm of a pure woman's sense
Retain me in unspoken word.*

*Sing me when green leaves do fade,
And do not find for me another name!
Far away of this world, I'll be the same
For you... eternal serenade...*

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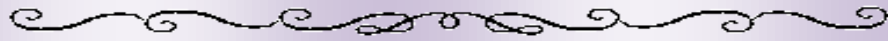


So real...

*O, so real creep between me and you
Like angels and demons, the words as blind !
But there are not moments enough for two
To know what fear our love will unbind...*

*A womb of lily naked and pierced
It's the thirst of all that looks like a sunbeam...
You want me as a bride whose eyes never cried
And o, so real it seems to be your dream!*

Mariana Eftimie Kabbout



The next poems - translated from the Romanian by PETRU IAMANDI

So much, so long ago...

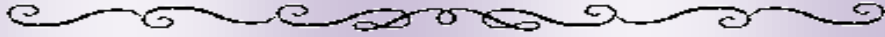
*The silence I love
bears
your name.*

*It was born
while the night was sighing,
leaning against the sky,
and I was finding happiness
again,
on my fingers.*

*The kiss...
Hmm...
The one I haven't learnt
how to hide from
is resting a little...
...just above the corner of the mouth...*

*but...
so long ago...
I grew so much!
I've grown so much
that I've outgrown
the mantle of time.*

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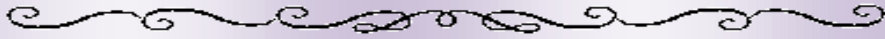


Let me stay a little longer...

*... in the colourful city
where the wonders
waltz
on tiptoe
and the smile
is never so complete.*

*Yes...
...let me go back
to the end of the world
and lie to you
I'd have come to you
more often
had I not understood
that eternity got off
at the last stop...*

Mariana Eftimie Kabbout



I will stay

*I was given birth
by the silence of the world
barefoot
and blue-eyed.*

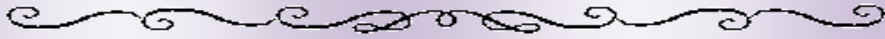
*A rich hunter
keeps calling me.
(as if my name were
a bought-back forest!)*

*Burgeoning,
the seventh heaven
is catching up
with me...*

- Take these steps and go!

*I...
I will stay.
A little longer...
Till the last word.*

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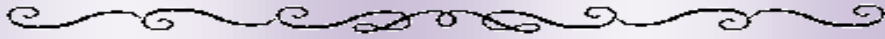
Game

*I'm learning to leave
through two ideas
I shout at
without knowing why.*

*I retain
just the world
in which mothers
recognize their sons
and the beginning
I've never
parted with.*

Father,
*could this be
(I wonder)
the game that's
won
only by those who know how to lose?*

Mariana Eftimie Kabbout

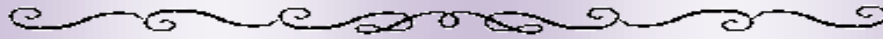


As close

*Sing my name
to the earth,
when silence
becomes
the icon of lost
wisdom.*

*Sing...
... and
take me as close
to death...
...as I can smile to him.*

Mariana Eftimie Kabbout



It stopped raining

No...

*... it stopped raining
flowers...*

*Or kisses
from which
the mornings
twined wreaths
on the light's crown.*

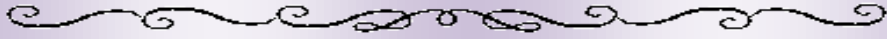
*It stopped raining,
yesterday.*

*Now,
the sky is
just a place
from which
one can only watch.*

*Your Highness,
whisper to me
the alphabet of forgiveness!*

*And not even
the angels
will know
the passion I come from...*

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Child

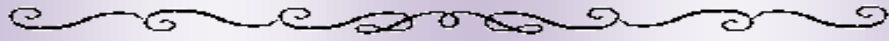
*I found you again
at the turn of an idea...*

*You were drawing time
on a sunray.*

Above everything else, every bit...

*... your love,
the child of what flower was it?*

Mariana Eftimie Kabbout



I will forget

*Listen
to the sonnet
you were born into...*

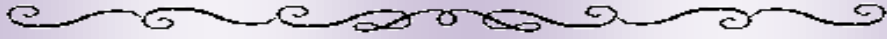
*... and don't shake hands
with the past!*

*Just build me up
in the last echo of your soul...*

*No end
will recognize my voice.*

*By singing you,
I'll turn into a second
which I'll forget
to ever leave...*

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Beyond

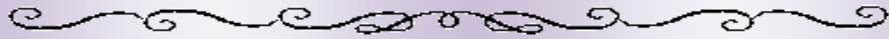
*The word
in which I dwell
is a sound
unguided by the meaning
of silence.*

Do not divide me into syllables!

*My name
is longer
than the skyline...*

*And now,
I know
why it doesn't end
beyond...*

Mariana Eftimie Kabbout



Ephemeral trade wind

*Bind my translucent wings
to the last step
of your heart...
... and don't tell the night
I exist.*

*Rock my blind seconds
to a crazy rhythm
on the path between your hands...*

... now and again...

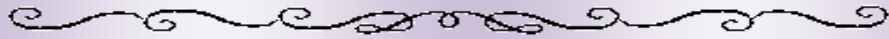
*I look into the hollow of my hand...
an angel has drawn your dreams...
Oh, God,
no olive branch now knows
I carry its blooms in my thoughts
to your tune...*

*Trembling,
your pure image owns me...
...an ear bearing caresses and colours...*

*... and if I am to be a shadow,
I'll step
reviving into the seventh sky...*

*Ephemeral trade wind,
how will you know it is I...?*

Mariana Eftimie Kabbout



Between space and time...

*There's a spot
in the core of which
a god's still playing
with your dreams.*

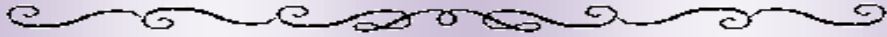
*Crawling on its knees
on the body's steps
the barefoot spirit
embellishes the silence's neck.*

*Slave of sounds
torn up by time,
summon up your strength
planted at the world's feet
and salve your confused wounds
with the chrism of oblivion
singing:*

*- Good-bye, good-bye,
second captive within an absolute zero...
Stop asking a blind and mute void
for vain answers!*

*To die?
Do you really think you can do it
when all the years have already watched
how on a mountain of clay
you were walking arm in arm
with a death?*

Mariana Eftimie Kabbout



.....

*I'm slipping
on the edge of your thought
like on a colourless shiver
and forget
who I am.*

Why should I know?

*Lights and shadows
are covering
my longing iris...
terrible longing!*

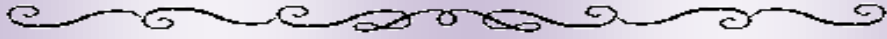
*... could that be
the only second I fear?*

*I'm slipping, loving...
tearing myself away from a dream.*

Can I fall down?

*How many seconds do I need to want you,
rainbow spread about
in abysses of jade?*

Mariana Eftimie Kabbout

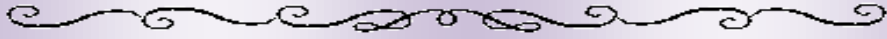


In a different way

*I sigh
at the same time with
the meaning of a natural word.*

*I wonder if
starting tomorrow
I'll be able to tell you
in a different way
I love you...?*

Mariana Eftimie Kabbout

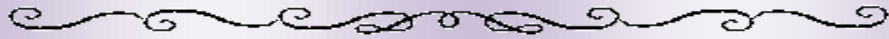


Higher

*This tree
has grown
only
to the blooms at the top.*

*And
it's only now
I understand
why the height
has moved
one sky up...*

Mariana Eftimie Kabbout



My secret

*I,
in my flight,
bumped
into the heavenly vault
and wondered
what I was doing there...*

*Watching from the void
I didn't look myself
at all.*

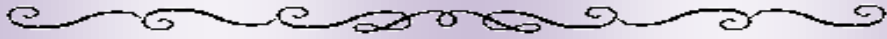
*I was the perfect copy
of the passing of time.*

*I enveloped the space
between
tomorrow and today
with my crazy wish
to know
what I had been.*

*And...
I found out.*

*But
I won't tell you.*

Mariana Eftimie Kabbout



**Do not judge me because I was not!
Judge me because I did not wish to know
how you would have wanted me to be!**

Mariana ETIMIE KABBOUT

