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NENAD ŠAPONJA

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF GRAVITY

or

In the silence of the weight of the rolled dice

Translated by
Vuk Tošić

ΑΓΩΡΑ

SWEET SILENCE

Come Back:
Because in Returning One Exists

Easily, yet wickedly,
everything we don't want happens.

Sharp and clear,
I stare
at the very stuckness,
at the confusion between you and me.

I follow the deepest silence
in which you walk.

I follow the elusive
and lasting transience.

I regularly measure
the duration of events
after they have occurred.

I feel around for the point
where things move.

My ineffability,
heedless,

I'll ask you where I am
and where I've been.

Because I did everything
to expose nothing
and nothing hid
me from me.

My Geography:
It's Called Psychology

I transcribe the sounds of time,
porous and reliable all at once.

How old do you need to be
to remain young forever?
Yet how easy it is to fall asleep
and not wake up.
To be within yourself and on your own.
In complete safety,
because that's where everything is.

Who Owns the Space:
Through Which I Move

In the midst of childhood,
in this skin and body,
that is fifty-five years old
I move around the world
with the eyes and mind of a five-year-old.

No one believes me.
But everyone's prepared to hurt me.

We always go where we've already been.
And all that was still only
the moment's temptation.

The one
in which you
can't find me,
not any form,
nor in the notion of initiated intimacy!

Oh, Talk to Me:
Will I Be Tomorrow

Where I Am?

I pay attention to the boy within me,
heeding the discomfort
that melts him
in the grownup body.

As if he has never been
all that he most truly is,
his own and whole,
alone and complete.

He's trying to flee
the slavery in which
I've been increasingly
hindering him for years.

He scratches me, begging me mutely
to enlighten the darkened world,
to be what I was –
when I was.

He begs me to get out
of the game that I'm losing.

He begs me not to throw
the dice loaded
by someone else's hand.

He begs me for a whisper of attention.

And I,
cruelly and rudely,
roll the dice,
just as I felt where
the weight is in it.