

Ars poetica

ARCHIBALD MACLEISH (1892-1982)

A POEM should be palpable and mute
As old medallions to the thumb

Dumb
As old medallions to the thumb

Silent as the sleeve-worm stone
Og casement ledges where the moss has grown—

A poem should be wordless
As the flight of birds

A poem should be motionless in time
As the moon climbs

Leaving, as the moon releases
Twig by twig yhe night-ebtangled trees,

Leaving, as the moon behind the winter leaves,
Memory by memory the mind—

A poem should be motionless in time
As the moon climbs

A poem should be equal to:
Not true

For all the history of grief
An empty doorway and a maple leaf

For love
The leaning grasses and two lights above the sea—

A poem should not mean
But be

POEMA BATEK ukigarria eta mutua behar du izan
Fruitu biribil baten gisan

Mintzogabe

Erpuruaren kontrako medailio zaharren pare

Isila, goroldiozko jantzia leiho inguruan

Harriak duen moduan

Poema batek hutsik behar du hitzez

Txorien hegaldia legez

Geldik behar du poema batek denboran

Ilargia dagoen bezala goran

Ihesi, ilargia neguko hostoen atzean,

Oroimena oroimenaren ondotik buruan

Geldik behar du poema batek denboran

Ilargia dagoen bezala goran

Poema batek beharko luke halakoa:

Egiarik gabekoa

Atsekabearen historia guztiarentzat

Atari hutsa eta astigarraren hostoa

Amodioarentzat

Makurtutako belarrak eta bi argien azpiko itsasoa

Poema batek ez luke behar esanahirik

Izana baizik

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