

YANG MU 楊牧

Boli

(Khabarovsk, 1994)

That day I sail downstream, wild geese fly south
Gleaming across the water in a V-shaped pattern
I nod at them, put the starboard halyard in order
Squinting my eyes, I inspect the boundless river in the distance
The glowing embankment is Khabarovsk

Winds blow from the north-west and the south-east
Clashing above my head, seemingly, vaguely
Pieces of broken ice on the snowy prairie softly collide
And melt, into a touch of stray rain
I feel the light sweat on the back of my head slowly drying

But there is a message in all this, I think
Unfamiliar leaf veins and bulbs, when I reduce speed
And slow down, arouse no curiosity. Seasonal winds
Part ways in the sky, in Khabarovsk
Two wide rivers quietly, shyly meet

Facing the glistening water, I anchor the boat on the north bank
And walk up the shore on damp stone steps. In my memory
I seem to have been here before, a familiar floral scent
And goat cheese shortbread in the air, perhaps I was here
In previous life when I was on the run from the arrest of the Red Army

The large bell on the shore clangs twice
People take out their pocket watches to set time, a horse
Pulling a cart full of wheat stalks to the pier
I walk south along the mighty Ussuri River
And slow down at the sight of the stone wall of the church

伯力

(Khabarovsk, 1994)

那一天我順流而下，雁子
閃過水面向南以人字形飛
我頷首，將右舷帆纜整好
眯起眼睛測視前方水漫漫處
發光的大堤是卡巴若夫斯克

風從西北，從東南方向吹來
在我頭頂上交擊，鬍鬚依稀
大雪原的碎冰是弱勢遭遇
融解，化入迷失的雨意
我感覺後腦的微汗點點乾了

但這其中有些訊息，我想
陌生的葉脈與球莖當我減速
慢行就已不覺得好奇。季風
在空中分手，在卡巴若夫斯克
兩條大江矜持地，默默會合

我對著粼粼的水光靠北邊靠好
尋潮溼的石梯上岸，記憶裡
好像來過，空氣飄著熟悉的
花香和羊酪酥餅的味道，或許
前生走避紅軍緝捕曾經來過

岸上的大鐘噹噹敲了兩下
人們掏出袋錶對時，一匹馬
拉著滿載麥稈的大車去碼頭
我沿浩蕩的烏蘇里江往南
看到教堂的石牆將腳步放慢

Khabarovsk, today I am no longer
In a panic, going through the clamouring boxwood grove
By the mill, from the slanting dried-up creek
Toward the hill. I raise my head
And see her standing up there against the sun

A little girl with blonde hair and a wreath of flowers
Stands in the dazzling halo of light, her dress
With embroidery in gold thread softly sways
I think I know her, her smiling face like a water vortex
Once she gave me a revelation and made me a promise

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Translated by Michelle Yeh and Frank Stewart

卡巴若夫斯克，如今我不再
倉惶，穿過磨坊旁邊那一排
喧嘩的黃楊樹林，從枯水
傾斜的小溪往山岡走，抬頭
看見她背向太陽在高處站著

一個金髮戴花的小女孩
在強烈的光暈裡站著，金箔
刺繡的衣裳輕輕，輕輕飄著
我想我認識她，水渦一樣的
笑臉曾經對我顯示，許諾

那一天我順流而下，雁子
閃過水面向南以人字形飛
我頷首，將右舷帆纜整好
眯起眼睛測視前方水漫漫處
發光的大堤是卡巴若夫斯克



Khabarovsk in the 1900s