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## A Weaving-Song

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Pagbubuksan ka ng pinto, patutuluyin ka  
Sa abung-abung na lalaging may saleng.

Mga salitang Igorot:

abung-abung — katutubong bahay  
saleng — kahoy-panggatong mula sa pino; ang punong pino mismo  
payaw — hagdan-hagdan palayan  
agamang — bahay-imbakan ng palay  
gimata — dalawang malalaking bakol na nakatali sa magkabilang dulo  
ng pingga  
dap-ay — bahay-komunal

MA. LUISA AGUILAR-CARIÑO

### A Weaving-Song

Tabi ni yande  
yume wa kareno wo  
kakemeguro

(On a journey, ill—  
O'er fields all withered  
dreams go wandering still)

— Matsuo Basho

In search of seasons  
That will prove indelible as time,  
I have trained my hunger  
To a weaving-wheel.  
Nightly my hand plies the secret loom,  
But I am traveller still,  
Though it is others who depart  
Or who withdraw, uncertain  
Of how fingers  
Can bend to fashion love  
From all they touch—or anguish.

Some need compels I memorize  
The smell of surf borne from an alien shore  
By errant winds into these stony hills;  
The sound of water dripping  
Into some hidden pool,  
The blight of stars beneath a garden frond.

In deep of night I wake to sense  
A chord vibrating in the air, the way  
Buds are resting in their pewter vase.  
At noon my eyes behold  
The wonder of doves  
Fluttering in the frieze  
Of noon heat  
And the breathless trees.

But even these move: birds scatter  
And shadows shift their purple weight  
From leaves and boughs,  
And no seam shows.  
Daily my feet repeat the old  
Familiar paths, and lead me back  
To my own hearth.  
There the heart notes and executes  
The shuttle's silent exercise  
Upon taut and comprehending threads.  
Outside, in the hills, love roams.

ALBERT ALEJO, S. J.

**Kung ang Tula ay Wala**  
(Pasintabi sa makata ng Obando)

Kung ang tula ay wala  
kundi kangkong sa sikmura  
lalo pa nga kung inumit  
sa munting tindahan  
ng kapwa nagpapawis,  
di hamak ko pang  
nanaising makinig  
sa dalawampu't isang  
taludtod ng kampana  
na binibigkas  
sa katanghalian,  
o kaya nama'y tumitig  
sa andap ng kandila