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All Saints' Eve A Beach in Eastern Luzon, After Dumaguete

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na bumabasbas
sa oras ng hapunan,
pagkat ako'y bumubuay
at ang loob ko'y pagod na
pagod na pagod na.
Nasilaw na ako sa kinang
ng mga langit na de-lata
at nalason lamang
sa pagsubo't pagdura ng bala.
Kaya't para na ninyong awa
mga makatang kapwa ko rin dukha,
huwag kayong manukso
at huwag ding magpatukso
kahit pa nga ba ang tula
ay maging letson sa bunganga.

FIDELITO C. CORTES

All Saints' Eve

It is wrong to think leaves never
Fall in this climate; they lie strewn
On the ground in the wettest
October in memory,
Stripped from branches by wind, rain,
By perhaps the call of the season.

One would say they shroud the earth,
Honoring the solemnness he feels.
Or that these leaves—dun cerements rotting
On the sod—honor the dead,
As they might with the pungent smoke,
Among the trees, of their own burning.

If led to a sad reflection,
The walker of these paths may find
In this wet, smoky, joyless day
A kind of mellow dissipation,
Like the smoke disappearing into
The trees or their seasonal death.

A Beach in Eastern Luzon, After Dumaguete

What moved me to act this way or sent
 Me to the shore—stumbling where bent
 Beach grass overgrew damp crab holes—
 I don't know. I know the nearby shoals
 Glittered in the wet sunlight. I saw
 The sea wrack at water's edge grow
 In darkening heaps to set entire.
 I felt the moonrise rim the sea with fire.

When I walked barefoot to the end of land
 I found desire in the tangle
 Of kelp and driftwood on the gritty sand.
 Now see I love is a worn-out shell
 That had unhoused its habitant
 And rued her loss by waves, as they rose and fell.

HEBER BARTOLOME

Debut

Labinwalong taon,
 Labinwalong taon ka na ngayon, at
 Tila malungkot,
 Tila malungkot kung wala kang ama
 Upang ikaw ay isayaw,
 Upang ikaw ay isayaw at ipakilala
 sa lipunang magulo,
 puro rally at demo.

Labinwalong taon,
 Labinwalong taon ka na ngayon, at
 Tila masaya,
 Tila masaya ang bayang nakarinig
 Ng resulta ng Agrava,
 Ng resulta ng isang dramang kinumisyon
 at ito'y unang yugto,
 nitong bukas na madugo.