

philippine studies

Ateneo de Manila University • Loyola Heights, Quezon City • 1108 Philippines

Falling Star

R. Torres Pandan

Philippine Studies vol. 53, no. 2&3 (2005): 419

Copyright © Ateneo de Manila University

Philippine Studies is published by the Ateneo de Manila University. Contents may not be copied or sent via email or other means to multiple sites and posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's written permission. Users may download and print articles for individual, noncommercial use only. However, unless prior permission has been obtained, you may not download an entire issue of a journal, or download multiple copies of articles.

Please contact the publisher for any further use of this work at philstudies@admu.edu.ph.

<http://www.philippinestudies.net>
Fri Jun 27 13:30:20 2008

R. TORRES PANDAN

Falling Star

Sometimes, looking up just
In time to catch a falling star,
I'd worry that it is some planet,
One with friendly gases,
One with people in it, with houses
And nice furniture, small children
And their pets, hurtling toward
Its fiery doom. And while this planet
Slipped out of control
In the empty sky, I'd wonder
How soon we might share its fate,
With its late skills in French
Or basketball or with its vain loves
Or losses. But yet, this plagues me
Most of all: would anyone even
Bother to catch our own brief apparition
Of dust, forgotten—soon gone—
And falling across no one else's sky?

VICTOR PEÑARANDA

Davis Church

I strolled to Panglao Island one morning years ago,
When lanterns of fishers still shone far out at sea,
And ended up lost in thought near old Davis Church
Wondering if it was wise to enter without favor,
To worship its cumulus ceiling of illuminated tales.

I recalled swallows gliding through its open doorways
Threading eye of my heart with mystifying secrets: