

OF EARTH

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THE SPEED OF EARTH

you think you're quick
earth is quicker

her feet reach to yours
the moment before you step

she breathes into you
the moment before you inhale

she unveils herself to you
the moment before you look

and she makes extraordinary sense
the moment before you puzzle

how she serves you!
how you mistrust her!

testing her, when she has brought
all devotion, in great simplicity

THE LIVING EARTH

Doch furchtbar ist, wie da und dort
Unendlich hin zertreut das Lebende Gott.
Hölderlin – Patmos

But it's terrifying, how here and there
Infinitely is scattered this living God.
Hölderlin – Patmos

on days colourless as
grey, wear turquoise with
brown or orange parts to it, coral
or jet or amber

so that, fascinated by the un-faceted, un-
done to the rhythm of stone once water or salty, once
wood or resin, life
may survive meta-

morphoses! a trinket! an
ornament! a billowing pillar
of cloud or garnet

THE LOVER REQUESTS METAMORPHOSES

your ordinary human body
cannot be strong enough

to withstand the intense desire
of my passionate love

you should rather be a mountain
a moment of earth between hours

you should rather be a river
a momentary rush

you should rather rain a wide expanse
across the cracked plains of longing

because your ordinary human body
cannot be strong enough

to carry out the intense desire
of my passionate love

FOR DESIRE TO BECOME SOMETHING THE BODY CAN EXPRESS

it must transform

may the lover's body be the landscape
may it be the sky
may it be in the earth of an everyone
in the hands of everyone
the face of every face

may it be a fountain of water
which leaves no trace
has no preference

and pleases
without conspiring, and cleanses
without diluting, receives

it gives, carries
away, it purifies

this loving body cannot die

it must transform

ASPIRATION

that this body invite beauty
enrapture, instill desire
to then steal words from the lover
to praise all life

to pray
that this body be a lover's body
to the earth, that this life be
in earnest intimacy
with all entirety

as a fleshy self
encounters earth, feet to feet,
this extremity to that
a caress, each step
a stroke of love, this path

continual union