
AND THE GREATEST DIS- APPOINTMENT...

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Y el desencanto más grande
es saber que se nos ha
imposibilitado todo encanto;
que la vida se escapa como
agua entre las manos;
que si estuviéramos hechos
para alcanzar el cielo,
tendríamos alas e Ícaro
no hubiera muerto en vano;
que el sabor más dulce
no causa placer sino cuando
se acompaña con amargura.
El encanto mayor, entonces,
es reconocer que aunque
no tenemos alas sería mejor
inventárnoslas y morir como
Ícaro una y otra vez tan solo
porque la amargura seca
de la caída es fácil de olvidar
con el recuerdo del vuelo.

And the greatest disappointment
is knowing that all joy
has been taken away from us;
that life escapes like
water between our fingers;
that if we had been made
to reach the heavens,
we'd have wings and Icarus
would not have died in vain;
that the sweetest taste
doesn't give us pleasure but when
accompanied with bitterness.
The greatest joy, then,
is recognizing that even though
we don't have wings we ought
to invent them and die like
Icarus again and again if only
because the dry bitterness
of the fall is easy to forget
upon remembering the flight.