



Kui Tume veel Kauaks ka sinu Maa

Kui tume veel kauaks ka sinu maa
ja raske su koorem kanda,
kui enam ei jõuaks, ei jõuakski ka
sa soovide siniranda.

Täht süttib ehk taevas su üle veel,
lill tärkab su haua pinnast,
ja sinu mõte ja sinu meel
kord tuksub su rahva rinnast –

ja liigub ja loob ja lehvitab
ja kauneid radasid rajab,
su rahva koda see ehitab
ja põlvest põlveni kajab.

Juhan Liiv (1864-1913)

Though your Country be Dark for a Long Time

Though your country be dark for a long time
and your burden heavy to bear,
though you never reach,
never reach the blue shore of your desires.

Still a star may glitter in the sky above you,
still a flower may blossom over your grave
and your thought and your mind
one day pulse from the breast of your kindred

and move and create and spread
and lay beautiful roads ;
it will build the house of your kindred
and echo from one generation to the next.

*translated from the Estonian
by Jüri Talvet and H.L.Hix*

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