

I Don't Find Myself On The Map

Kiki Dimoula, Translated by Adrienne Kalfopoulou

What's the matter sea?
I'm worried

for hours I've been waiting, stuck
on this rocky shore you lapped, where you came by
for me to board.

I watch your waves
as always they carry
summer's ports from person to person
whether they're close or far apart.

They're full, those waves.

The deck
leans over the railings, singing

the stowaway breeze
tousles the songs' words

greetings crossover
overbooked, the harbors, one after another
sound their horns, and the departures
are full and melancholy.

I wait in vain
waving my luggage
so the waves see me
but they don't approach
they pass me by.

What's wrong sea
am I not on the map, no longer a port of call?

Obsession

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I murdered someone
I finally got rid of him
in slow torturous ways
so I could enjoy the appalling action.

I slaughtered him

slicing his head first
then I slit out the eyes
if he dares now
let him look at me indifferently.

I spread hell over his body
so he wouldn't know paradise.

I left the legs
hanging from a crippled frame
as an example.

--So you became the executioner
you covered your hands in the blood
of a handicapped photograph?

Since it didn't go away what else could I do?
I kept throwing it out
pushing, kicking, cursing, it.

I threw it in the garbage
it turned to pulp

again I found it inside
untouched, again with that same
indifferent, self-satisfied expression.

You murdered the wrong sorrow.
The one that poisoned you
lives.

At Home

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I'll stay in myself even more.
You're free to think
sin, confess
you regret with difficulty what's not easy to forget
what was suffered as so much hell or sin
for such a small piece of paradise.

I'll stay inside then
it's so completely open.
Though I have no horizon left
the outside isn't the only provider
this horizon is made of need
how much do you need it
how much do you want it closer faster
do you want it

plain
with stars and a slice of moon
or only with God?

If it's only with God
it will cost you
after all any faith
even undecided ones cost.
It requires you to spend yourself
completely.