

Li Li

A MOMENT OF SILENCE, FOR CHILDREN KILLED IN THE EARTHQUAKE

A moment of silence, for buds destroyed by Spring
Before they could burst into flower

A moment of silence, not for great men who did good
Not for the Buddhas smashed in the temples
But for those small frail lives, the grass and the snails

A moment of silence, for the paradise of voices
reciting

Which when sweeping over the fields of hope
Becomes a hell of mournful wailing
For the cave-ins mysteriously shaped like the
character “prison”

A moment of silence, for the vanishing cries of
“Daddy!” and “Mama!”

For phrases like “going on an outing,” “going to
school,” “going home”
For the unclaimed cell phones

A moment of silence, for the earth, blindly turning
And for hearts, blindly beating
And for the reinforced concrete and the stones,
not knowing to escape after killing people. They
were for killing people

A moment of silence, for the classroom doorframe
Suddenly transformed into a knife in the back
And for the child who wanted to be Ultraman*
But in the end flickered into candlelight lines of poetry

A moment of silence, for the capricious tremors
For fear

And for the life-mocking sudden death sentence
without favor of trial

A moment of silence, for the sound of that last sigh
For that last unheard prayer in the darkness, a child’s
prayer

A moment of silence, for ruins as tranquil as the blue
sky

For the philosophy of life in a book in the ruins
For small hands that will no longer turn textbook pages
For weeping eyes fixed on the stars, and like stars,
now unable to close

A moment of silence, for cruel memorial rites
For the cruel forgetting that follows
For forgetting

*Ultraman is a cartoon superhero who starred in the 1960s Japanese television series *Ultraman*.

李笠

默哀，为死于地震的孩子

默哀，为了没有绽开
就被春天毁灭的花朵

默哀，不为功德显赫的伟人
不为庙里打碎的佛祖
而是为了那些弱小的生命，草和蜗牛

默哀，为了读书声里的天堂
在掠过希望的田野时
变成哀嚎的地狱
为了呈现“囚”这个象形字奥秘的坍塌

默哀，为了那些消失的“爸爸！”“妈妈！”的喊声
为了“郊游”“上学”“回家”的字眼
为了无人认领的手机

默哀，为了盲目运转的地球
也为心脏盲目的悸动
也为杀人后不知道逃离现场的钢筋水泥和石头。为了杀人

默哀，为了教室的门框
忽然变成插入背部的刀子
为了想当奥特曼
但最后颤栗成烛光的诗行

默哀，为了随时出现的震晃
为了恐惧
也为了嘲弄生命，没有审判书的突然的死刑

默哀，为了最后的那声叹息
为了没人听到的黑暗中最后的祈求，孩子的祈求

默哀，为了蓝天一样平静的废墟
为了废墟里书上的人生哲理
为了不再翻弄课本的小手
为了凝望星空但变成像星星一样不会闭合的泪眼

默哀，为了残忍的祭献仪式
为了祭献后的残忍的遗忘
为了遗忘

