

# The Dryness and the Rain

mewithoutYou

First came a strong wind,  
rippin' off rooftops like bottlecaps  
and bending lamp posts down in the ground.

then came a thunder shattering my windows  
but you were not that strong wind or that might sound

You left the bar in shambles,  
the rabbit hutch in ruins,  
the split-rail fence splintered and the curtains torn.

all the cows out from the pastures trampling of the pumpkins  
and the horses from their stable ambling in the corn

Isa ruhu-lah 'alaihis-salat was-salam

I've flown unnoticed just behind you like an insect  
And I've watched you like a falcon from a distance as you passed.

then swooped down to be nearer, to the traces of the footsteps  
to pick the fallen grain from the dirt beneath the crooked grass.

And I'm gonna take that grain and I'm gonna crush it all together  
into the flour of a bread as small and simple and sincere.

as when the dryness and the rain finally drink from one another  
the gentle cup of mutually surrendered tears!

A fish swims through the sea  
while the sea is in a certain sense,  
contained within the fish!  
Oh, what am I to think  
of what the writing of a thousand lifetimes  
could not explain  
if all the forest trees were pens  
and all the oceans - ink?

nastagh-firuka ya Hokan  
ya Dhal-Jalah wal-Ikram  
Isa ruhu-lah 'alaihis-salat was-salam  
ya Halim, ya Qahhar  
ya Muntaqim, ya Ghaffar!  
la Ilaha ilallahu, Allahu Akbar!