



TWO POEMS OF FEDERICO GARCÍA LORCA

TRANSLATED FROM SPANISH
BY MD. ELIAS UDDIN



Farewell (*Despedida*)

If I die,
leave the balcony open.

The boy eats oranges.
(From the balcony I see that.)

The harvester reaps the wheat.
(From the balcony I feel that.)

If I die,
leave the balcony open!

(*Canciones*)

Song of the dry orange tree
(*Canción del naranjo seco*)
To Carmen Morales

Woodsman,
Chop my shadow down.
Save me from the agony
of seeing myself without fruits.

Why was I born among mirrors?
Around me the day rotates.
And the night copies me
in all her stars.

I want to live without seeing myself.
And the ants and the burrs –
I will dream that they are
my leaves and my birds.

Woodsman,
Chop down my shadow.
Save me from the anguish
of seeing myself without fruits.

(*Canciones*)

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Eid Nowadays

Just
a vacation
of three days
so that we can
pollute the cox's bazar
sea beach throwing away
plastic bottles and bags

The Interrogation of a Poet

(with due apologies to Kaiser Haq)

A small, dark room
The poet is tied to a chair
An officer in military uniform comes
breaks his nose punching:

You fought a war before, professor
No?
And here you're, again—
old, pathetic

(laughs)
I'll just take things easy,
forget to zip up after a pee,
wear red underwear on Valentine's Day

You like war, professor?

Yes, no
It's like sex
but cannot
give

TWO POEMS BY MD. MEHEDI HASAN

mutual satisfaction
You've got a macabre sense of humor
(punches again)
What do you want anyway?

YOU RICH, I AM POOR — WHY?
(sneering)
That's why you've come to fight a war
wearing a lungi!

All clothes have equal rights

Stop tickling people
and pinching us,
would you?

From you I will buy nothing
just will miss the tête-à-tête
withms bunny sen of banglarnotor

Filthy poets, of no use
Shoot him

The jouissance of getting through
is as good as an orgasm

Any last wish?

GIVE ME BANANAS OR GIVE ME DEATH!

Md. Mehedi Hasan's writings have been published in The
Daily Star, The Daily Observer, The Independent, The
Wagon Magazine, Arts & Letters- Dhaka Tribune.

