

RAINER MARIA RILKE:
LAMENT

How everything is far
and lost and gone.
I think the star
whose brightness I welcome in
has been extinct for an age.
I think, in the barge
that passed, a voice was afraid.
Back in the house a clock
went dead...
But in what house?...
If I could only get out
of my heart and under the wide sky.
If I could pray.
Surely of all the stars, one
must still be there.
I think I'd know
which one alone
has lasted through; which one
at the beam's end in heaven stands like a silver town.