

FUNERAL ON GYPSY ROW

Pale-wailing faces of autumn birds.
bitterness, seduced from violin strings, caress.
on your coffin, on stretched crucifixes of eyes,
blazes an unpluckable black flower: your memory.
why did you start this sad dance with the night?
from the death of your heart, the bone-thin woman
bursts a river of tears. our howls congeal
on your eternal couch, the murderous wind
stabs your still body with the rain.

Translation of Károly Bari's poem from *Forgotten Fires*, 1973.
Károly Bari is a Roma-Hungarian poet born in Bükkaranos, Hungary in 1952.
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