

No Fixed Measure

אֵילוּ דְבָרִים שְׂאִין לָהֶם שְׁעוֹר :
הַצְּחֹק וְהַתְּכֵלֶת וְהַרְגַע.
וּמִן הַיְגוֹן בָּאָה אֵלַי תְּכֵלֶת
וּמִן הַפְּעֻמּוֹן בָּא אֵלַי צְחֹק
וְהַרְגַע בָּא מִתּוֹךְ עֲצָמוֹ.
-אַל תִּקְרְבוּ!- לַחֲשֵׁתִי, חוֹסֶמֶת-
רוּצָה אֲנִי לְהִיּוֹת מְגִבָּלָה,
מְצוּמְצָמֶת כְּרַעַשׁ. סוֹפִית כְּמִגְמָר.
אֵינְנִי רוּצָה לְהִיּוֹת בְּלִי שְׁעוֹר.
עוֹדֵנִי עוֹמְדָת. שׁוֹלַחַת קוֹלִי לְפָנַי, כְּמִבְצָר.
וְצְחֹק וְתְכֵלֶת וְרַגַע מְשַׁתְּלָחִים בִּי,
נוֹגְחִים בִּי,
בְּלִי שְׁעוֹר.

These are things for which there is no fixed measure:
the laughter, the blue, and the moment.
But it is from anguish that blue comes to me
and from the bell comes the laughter.
And the moment comes on its own.
Don't come near me! I whispered, warning,
I want to be constrained,
contracted as a shout and as final as an ending.
I don't want to be without measure.
I persist in my stance.
I deploy my voice before me, like a bulwark
while laughter, blue, and moment extend within me
They prod me
without measure.

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