

# Two Poems

by [Romain P. A. Delpeuch](#) (March 2022)



*Impression, Sunrise*, Claude Monet, 1872

## Silence

Machines unstring the real, remake our dreams in shapes  
I'm not able to feel. Outside, our time escapes.  
Let's seek the ways of old, may they dispel the fear  
long cast on souls unbold, and sharpen all the blur,  
incentive glimpses of immaculate despair  
extruded from above, narrating primal scare.

Believe the night's soft song, peruse its glyphs in stars;  
observe them well: they long and crave for blood and scars  
behind their hypocrite, deceptive brightness, fake

benignity. The pit eternal, wakeless lake  
you sense and feel in you, lies at our being's core.

Below, remain the few pristine delights of yore,  
remains a speck of hope entwined in the old roots  
of trees blooming up slope. Under, rot other fruits  
writhing and stinking high, ceaselessly, to our heads.  
Now, I'll rest on your thigh. Hold me. Bind us with threads.

## **Sweet Nothings**

I love the girl you were,  
the girl I'll never meet,  
the girl who now is dead.  
I only know defeat,  
I'm late and you can't stir  
my sorrow still unread.

There's no remembrance of  
the silly boy I was  
when you already rose  
amidst the crowd's applause  
(a fickle kind of love).  
The course of life so goes.

You keep your sadness in  
when joy you spread around.  
I wonder what you do  
when you can't hear a sound  
and all that's left within  
is silence, gone, gone through

the tears you didn't shed.  
Does perfect mastery  
of the deceiving art

pay for their flattery,  
for truths you keep unsaid  
and hidden in your heart?

Don't fear to please them not,  
those people who you think  
have power upon you.  
How all their soft words stink!  
They're stale and sour. They plot  
to use and misshape you.

They sully what they touch  
and spit corrosive lies.  
How can you be so sure  
they haven't spoiled your eyes,  
corrupted, as they clutch  
your soul, that was still pure,  
your first impulse, when still  
you could tell right from wrong  
and weren't rebuked for it?  
May you remain that strong,  
and never bend your will,  
your sense, your reason: never quit.

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Romain P. A. Delpuch was born in south-west France, where he still lives. His poetry and short fiction have appeared in *New English Review*, [Terror House Magazine](#), [The Ekphrastic Review](#), [Apocalypse Confidential](#) and [Ekstasis](#).

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