

# LATIFF MOHIDIN

MALAYSIA (1941–)

LANGUAGE: MALAY

## TENANG TELAH MEMBAWA RESAH (EXCERPT)

setiap yang kau pegang

terasa lama

setiap yang kau jauhi

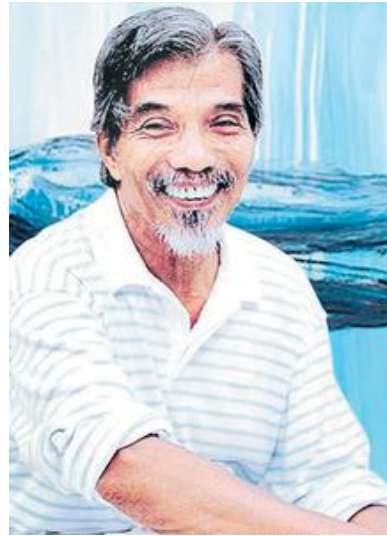
terasa dekat

waktu pintu tertutup

kau ingin keluar

waktu ruang terbuka

kau ingin duduk



Latiff Mohidin is Malaysia's most famous artist and poet alive today. As a young man, he traveled to Germany in order to study fine arts, during which time he also began to write poetry. At the height of the Vietnam War, upon completing his degree, he traveled to Southeast Asia before returning home to Malaysia. There, he produced a series of paintings and published a collection of poetry, both of which were profoundly influential to Malaysian art and literature. He has also translated several poems and plays from German into Malay. Mohidin continues to create art and write poetry in his old age.

TRANSLATOR'S GLOSSARY		
WORD	DEFINITION	POSSIBLE SYNONYMS
dekat (adv.)	at or to a short distance away	near, nearby, close
duduk (v.)	to rest with the torso vertical and the body supported on the backside	to sit, to sit down, to take a seat, to be seated, to flop down, to perch
ingin (v.)	have a desire to do something	want, wish, long, need, are dying to
jauhi (v.)	give up completely	abandon, forsake, let go, disown, discard, relinquish
kau (pron.)	the person being spoken to	you
keluar (v.)	to depart from	to leave, to go out, to exit, to vacate, to split
lama (adj.)	belonging to the past	old, ancient, antique, old-fashioned, stale, passé
pegang (v.)	have or retain possession of	hold, hold on to, keep, save, hang on to, stash away
pintu (n.)	a hinged, sliding, or revolving barrier at the entrance to a building, room, or vehicle	door, doorway, portal, entrance, entry, exit, opening
resah (n.)	a tumultuous reaction	storm, restlessness, chaos, uproar
ruang (n.)	a continuous area or expanse that is free, available, or unoccupied	space, room, capacity, extent, scope
setiap yang (n.)	all things	all, everything, every single thing
telah membawa (v.)	to cause something to arrive	has brought, has ushered, has produced
tenang (n.)	the absence of agitation or violence	calm, tranquility, quiet
terasa (v.)	gives the impression or sensation of	feels, seems
terbuka (adj.)	allowing access, passage, or a view through an empty space	open, wide open, extensive, sweeping, unlimited
tertutup (adj.)	put in a position to obstruct an entrance	closed, shut, secured, sealed, obstructed
waktu (conj.)	at or during that time that	when

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

## PHRASE BY PHRASE

TENANG TELAH MEMBAWA RESAH \_\_\_\_\_

setiap yang kau pegang \_\_\_\_\_

terasa lama \_\_\_\_\_

setiap yang kau jauhi \_\_\_\_\_

terasa dekat \_\_\_\_\_

waktu pintu tertutup \_\_\_\_\_

kau ingin keluar \_\_\_\_\_

waktu ruang terbuka \_\_\_\_\_

kau ingin duduk \_\_\_\_\_



## REFLECTING AND FINDING MEANING

Group Member Names:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Pick a scribe for the group, and work together to answer the questions.

What are the best parts of this translation, and why do you think they are good?

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What elements of the original poem did you lose in the translation? What did you manage to keep?

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Did you achieve something new with your translation, and if so, does it make sense in the poem or not?

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