

MOIKOM ZEQO

ALBANIA (1949–)

LANGUAGE: ALBANIAN

CILI?

Jam njeriu pyll,
njeriu zog,
njeriu det,
dhe njeriu peshk.

Cili i ngjajshëm si unë
do më qëllojë me shigjetë?

Cili—me thoni
më ka futur në rjetë?



Poet, writer, journalist, and archaeologist Moikom Zeqo was born in the ancient port city of Durrës, Albania. Zeqo is the author of several novels, volumes of poetry, short stories, children's books, and articles on Albanian history and literature. His poetry is inspired by his passion for myths, legends, and all things ancient. Zeqo studied history and philosophy at the University of Tirana. Later he worked for the Museum of Archeology in Durrës as well as for the Classical and Mediaeval Art Division of the Academy of Sciences. For many years he served as the director of the National Historical Museum in Tirana.

TRANSLATOR'S GLOSSARY		
WORD	DEFINITION	POSSIBLE SYNONYMS
cili (pron.)	what or which person or people	who
det (n.)	the expanse of salt water that covers most of the earth's surface and surrounds its landmasses.	sea, ocean
dhe (conj.)	used to connect words of the same part of speech, clauses, or sentences that are to be taken jointly	and, plus, in addition to, as well as
do më qëllojë (v.)	fire a bullet from a gun or discharge an arrow from a bow	will shoot me, will fire on me, will hit me, will strike me
futur (v.)	intercept and hold something that has been thrown, propelled, or dropped	will catch, will take hold, will receive
i ngjashëm (adv.)	resembles	like, similar to, comparable to
jam (v.)	first person singular of verb <i>to be</i> , meaning "to exist" or "be true"	I am, I exist
ka (v.)	used to identify	there is, there are
me (prep.)	possessing or accompanied by	with, by
më ka (pron.)	first person singular	me
me thoni (v.)	relate events or facts	tell me, say to me
në (prep.)	indicates place or state	into the, in the, on the
njeriu (adj.)	one single human being	human, one, man, person, individual
peshk (n.)	a limbless, cold-blooded, vertebrate animal with gills and fins that lives in water	fish
pyll (n.)	a large area covered chiefly with trees and undergrowth	forest, woods, woodland, timberland
qëlloje (v.)	kill or wound a person or animal with a bullet or arrow	shoot, fire upon, bombard

WORD	DEFINITION	POSSIBLE SYNONYMS
rrjetë (n.)	a length of open-meshed material made of twine, cord, rope, or something similar, typically used for catching fish or other animals	net, mesh, web, trawl, fishnet
shigjetë (n.)	a shaft sharpened at the front and with feathers or vanes at the back, shot from a bow as a weapon or for sport	arrow
si unë (pron.)	used by a speaker to refer to himself or herself as the object of a verb or preposition	me
zog (n.)	a warm-blooded, egg-laying vertebrate distinguished by the possession of feathers, wings, and a beak, and (typically) by being able to fly	bird, fowl, feathered friend

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

PHRASE BY PHRASE

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njeriu det, _____

dhe njeriu peshk. _____

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do më qëllojë me shigjetë? _____

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REFLECTING AND FINDING MEANING

Group Member Names:

Date: _____

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?

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

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