

RAHMA NUR

SOMALIA (1968 -)

LANGUAGE: ITALIAN

Tulipani

Rossi

con striature arancioni
si lanciano verso il sole
come innamorati
in cerca di un abbraccio
protesi verso la luce
attendono con pazienza
che i raggi li accarezzino
L'altro
bianco e candido
si è quasi chiuso in sé
come ad abbracciare
la sua stessa solitudine!



Rahma Nur is a poet, elementary school teacher, and author of children's books. Born in Mogadishu, Somalia, she has lived in Rome since the age of one. She speaks Italian and Somali. She had polio as a baby, which left her with a disability. Recalling her childhood, Nur explains: "I often felt alone and misunderstood, but something in me survived and made me persevere, fall and get back up countless times."*

*From an interview:

<https://leortique.wordpress.com/2022/01/31/il-tuo-corpo-intero-a-riempire-quel-vuoto-rahma-nur-poeta-italiana-di-origini-somale/>

TRANSLATOR'S GLOSSARY		
WORD	DEFINITION	POSSIBLE SYNONYMS
abbracciare (v.)	to hold someone or something in one's arms	to embrace, to hug, to cuddle
abbraccio (n.)	a gesture of holding or being held in someone's arms	hug, embrace
accarezzino (v.)	from the verb <i>accarezzare</i> , meaning to touch lightly	caress, stroke, brush
arancioni (adj.)	a color	orange, tangerine, golden
attendono...che (v.)	from the verb <i>attendere</i> , meaning to wait	they wait for, they expect, they look forward to
bianco (adj.)	a color	white, snowy, pale
candido (adj.)	not mixed with anything else	pure, clean
con (prep.)	used to describe a feature or component of something	with
come, come ad (prep.)	used to express similarity	like, similar to, as if to
cosa (pron.)	asking for information	what
dicono (v.)	from the verb <i>dire</i> , meaning to say	do they say, do they speak
dove (adv.)	used to express location	where, the place in which
e (conj.)	in addition to	and, as well as
i, il (art.)	denoting one or more people or things already mentioned or assumed to be common knowledge	the
in cerca di (prep.)	a phrase expressing the action of searching for something	searching for, in search of
in (prep.)	used to denote enclosure	inside, within

la, le (art.)	denoting one or more people or things already mentioned or assumed to be common knowledge	the
la sua stessa (art. + pron.)	indicating possession	its own
li (pron.)	used to indicate people or things	them
l'altro (pron.)	used to refer to a different person or thing from one already mentioned	the other one, another
luce (n.)	what makes things visible	brightness, light, radiance
pazienza (n.)	the ability to wait or persist	patience, tolerance, calmness
protesi (v.)	from the verb <i>protendere</i> , meaning to straighten or extend	stretching, reaching
quasi (adv.)	describing	almost, nearly
raggi (n.)	lines of light or heat	rays, beams
rossi (adj.)	a color	red, ruby
si è...chiuso (v.)	from the verb <i>chiudere</i> , meaning to close	almost closed itself, almost sealed itself
si lanciano (v.)	from the verb <i>lanciare</i> , meaning to launch	they throw themselves, they jump
sé (pron.)	referring to oneself	itself
sole (n.)	the star around which the earth orbits	sun, sunshine
solitudine (n.)	the state of being alone	isolation, loneliness
striature (n.)	elongated marks of a different color from their surroundings	streaks, bands
tulipani (n.)	a type of flower	tulips
un/un'/una (art.)	used when referring to something for the first time	one, a
verso (prep.)	used to indicate direction	to, towards

Name: _____

Date: _____

PHRASE BY PHRASE

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