

Elegy to Reinhart Buyno

Afonso Teixeira Filho

Blank pages
It was my desk that needed to be cleaned
I cannot find my papers... they were here
where are they?
There was dust on my desk
There will be forever
I cannot find my papers
I had to do that, but I will not anymore
I do not even know where my hands are
I cannot concentrate
I am at the point of losing my mind
Because I lost my papers
Which should be removed from my desk

I have cleaned my desk, my desk is clean
Clean of dust, clean of papers
Clean of my hands
It seems that my hands are dirty
It is impossible to write
Because I lost my papers and lost my mind

There was a blank page
It has gone
And will be forever

Let me say goodbye at least
But I will not
Because forever is for never more
And I will never see more
Because my friend has gone and left a blank page on
my desk

I could not concentrate since he left
Because he went away and will never come back
He left a blank page
Something must be written on this page
Many things must be written on this page
This page should show a poem about him
It cannot be that he has left a blank page
A blank page on the desk
He had so many things to say

We need to hear what he had to say
But what he had to say he will not say anymore
He left
He went away
He never will come back
And we will not hear

Everything we have is a blank page
I cannot concentrate
He has things to say
The papers on my desk
But he went away

Where are you? Could you tell me?
Where do you live now?
Do I know this place?
I should know. It is a better place, a commonplace

Teixeira Filho, Afonso. *Elegy to Reinhart Buyno*.

I should say
You must tell me

Please, come back some day
Some day I would find my place
I would find my papers
I would find your place
just to say farewell
But now I have to go, my friend
I have to polish my shoes.