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Elegy to Tears

Federico Arcos

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Elegy to Tears

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Tears
have no frontiers;
carry no passport;
nor require a visa.

Tears
are international;
as affection,
tenderness,
love.

Tears
have no fatherland;
they are universal.

Tears
is the man;
is the woman,
—the mother—,
is the child.

To suffer
is what is human
and human is the people.
To suffer is the flesh
rendered from the people
which raises a moan
and sheds tears.

And the people are here;
and in the antipode,
in the septentrion,
in the capricorn.

The people are
everywhere,
because to suffer
is the people;
people, of the peoples
which cover the Earth.

This. Earth
that was taken
from the people;
that was taken
from the man;
the woman,
—the mother—,
the child.