

Keijiro Suga (Translated by Keijiro Suga)

To the Open Ground

Starting out with nothing in my hands,
I tore up only necessary pages of books to carry with me.
Starting from a gently undulating desert,
each time when I went over a ridge
suddenly I came into a new landscape.
Beyond the high dry desert with rocks and cacti
extended an expansive delta where snow was falling.
Beyond a forest of Himalayan cedar
was a green grassland as vast as a sea.
Then I came to a red dirt road.
"Which way to the coast?" I asked a dingo.
"See that rocky mountain afar? The sea is still way beyond."
I began walking and the dingo began to follow me.
"I'll come with you. I'd like to see what's there."
In the shadow of the red dirt dingo
arose a new body of dingo in black and white.
Now they were two dingos to accompany me.
Together, we will go very far.
To the coast where ten years ago a miniature sun exploded.
To the empty land where ten years have gone by in a zip.
Let's go there walking.
To the open ground.
To a land cleared of everything.
To the land that remembers everything.

To the Open Ground（ひらけた土地へ）

何ももたずに出発した
本は必要なページだけ破りにとっていった
なだらかに波打つ荒野から
ひとつの稜線を越えるたび
風景ががらりと変わる
岩とサボテンの高原の彼方に
雪が降りしきるデルタ地帯がひろがる
ヒマラヤシーダーの森のむこうに
緑の海のような草原がある
それから赤土の道路に出た
「海岸はどっち？」とぼくはディンゴに訊いた
「あの遠い岩山が見えるだろう？ あのもっと先だよ」
ぼくが歩きだすとディンゴがついてきた
「私も一緒に行くわ、何があるか見たいから」
赤土のディンゴの影に白黒の体が生じて
二匹になったかれらがついてくる
これから遠くまでゆくのだ
十年前、ミニチュアの太陽が爆発した海岸まで
十年の時を経た、からっぽの土地まで
歩いてゆこう

To the open ground

何もない
すべてを覚えている
ひらけた土地へ