

「新しい命」

とくとくと脈打つ闇を解き放し吾子はいま新しい世界に出でたつ
喉鳴らし全身をもて乳飲むなりああ力強き新しい命よ
ふつふつと内より立ちくる乳の匂い母なる喜びひとり思いぬ
午前四時むしかれる子を抱きいて今日も聞きいる朝の音を
空をきり聳え立ちたる樟の木の大きくなる生き方学べよ吾子ら

吉田典子（昭和56年、30歳のとき）

静岡県の富士川町

A New Life

Thump. Thump.

Blood flows through my placenta in the darkness of my womb
as my yet unborn child prepares to spring into this world.

Fuu. Fuu.

My newborn's mouth tugs strongly at my nipples
as fresh milk drips from my breasts.

Whaa! Whaa!

I hug my fretful infant & quiet her whimpers,
waiting for the day she crosses the ancient camphor beams
of our ancestral shrine under a clear blue sky.

- Yoshida Noriko, 1981

(written at age 30 in Fujikawa-cho, Shizuoka Pref., Japan)

[translated by T Newfields]