

DAVID SWARTZ

Journey to Nowhere

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An old man
with a small voice
and a long trail of journeys
into the history
of hopes
dragging behind
shaved off his wrinkles
and walked into the future bakery
where he saw your sparkling eyes.

To himself:
I was search wild
for the present time
where the long spent past
finds the door-way
to the future
open'd wide;
and I found it
right here, right now
in a waking vision
of a lifesaving smile,
from out the portals
of your gracious soul
that filled my heart
with the momentary joy
of present bliss:
perpetual and eternal
is a moment like this!

Nowhere is a word which normally describes being lost. But *nowhere* can also be thought of as a kind of homeland or promised land, an authorial utopia of presence and immediacy, a non-place in which infinite conjunctive possibilities hang from the tree of the impossible. *Nowhere* gives hope to the lost postulates, has no determined body, no termination. *Nowhere* eschews then and there and affirms now and here, generates the future and the past yet remains forever present.

David Swartz is a young scholar, Masters Degrees in Comparative Literature (The University of Toronto) and Painting (The University of Lisbon). He is currently writing a PhD Thesis on Shakespeare's Sonnets at the Universidade NOVA de Lisboa. His recent translations include *The Religious Mantle* (New Meridian Arts, 2020), and *And Painting: Questioning Contemporary Painting* (CIEBA-FBAUL, 2016). His unpublished poems are of taut and inquisitive quality which bear witness to the existential uncertainty of human life in a credible metaphysical dimension as can be seen in his contribution to the 26 issue and the present one as well.