The Speed of Darkness

BY MURIEL RUKEYSER

I

Whoever despises the clitoris despises the penis
Whoever despises the penis despises the cunt
Whoever despises the cunt despises the life of the child.

Resurrection music, silence, and surf.

II

No longer speaking
Listening with the whole body
And with every drop of blood
Overtaken by silence

But this same silence is become speech
With the speed of darkness.

III

Stillness during war, the lake.
The unmoving spruces.
Glints over the water.
Faces, voices. You are far away.
A tree that trembles.
I am the tree that trembles and trembles.

IV

After the lifting of the mist
after the lift of the heavy rains
the sky stands clear
and the cries of the city risen in day
I remember the buildings are space
walled, to let space be used for living
I mind this room is space
this drinking glass is space
whose boundary of glass
lets me give you drink and space to drink
your hand, my hand being space
containing skies and constellations
your face
carries the reaches of air
I know I am space
my words are air.

V

Between between
the man : act exact
woman : in curve senses in their maze
frail orbits, green tries, games of stars
shape of the body speaking its evidence

VI

I look across at the real
vulnerable involved naked
devoted to the present of all I care for
the world of its history leading to this moment.

VII

Life the announcer.
I assure you
there are many ways to have a child.
I bastard mother
promise you
there are many ways to be born.
They all come forth
in their own grace.

VIII

Ends of the earth join tonight
with blazing stars upon their meeting.
These sons, these sons
fall burning into Asia.

IX

Time comes into it.
Say it. Say it.
The universe is made of stories,
not of atoms.

X

Lying
blazing beside me
you rear beautifully and up—
your thinking face—
erotic body reaching
in all its colors and lights—
your erotic face
colored and lit—
not colored body-and-face
but now entire,
colors lights the world thinking and reaching.

XI

The river flows past the city.

Water goes down to tomorrow
making its children I hear their unborn voices
I am working out the vocabulary of my silence.

XII

Big-boned man young and of my dream
Struggles to get the live bird out of his throat.
I am he am I? Dreaming?
I am the bird am I? I am the throat?

A bird with a curved beak.
It could slit anything, the throat-bird.
Drawn up slowly. The curved blades, not large.
Bird emerges wet being born
Begins to sing.

XIII
My night awake
staring at the broad rough jewel
the copper roof across the way
thinking of the poet
yet unborn in this dark
who will be the throat of these hours.
No. Of those hours.
Who will speak these days,
if not I,
if not you?


Source: Out of Silence: Selected Poems (TriQuarterly Books, 1992)
Speed of Darkness is the song that’s available for download after pre-ordering King Iso’s upcoming album, World War Me. It features King Iso’s classic fast flow found in songs like Chopped Liver and G.I. So, along with a guest verse from C-Mob and a chorus performed by Krizz Kaliko. “Speed of Darkness” Track Info. Written By C-Mob, Krizz Kaliko & King Iso. Label Ingrooves, RBC Records & Strange Music. Release Date January 23, 2020. World War Me King Iso. The speed of darkness is faster than the speed of light. Understand how and stay up to date on science news with Futurism. Most of us already know that darkness is the absence of light, and that light travels at the fastest speed possible for a physical object. So, what does this mean? In short, it means that, the moment that light leaves, darkness returns. In this respect, darkness has the same speed as light. However, in some instances, darkness actually moves faster than light. How is this possible? What is the highest possible speed of darkness? Find out in this new episode of Vsauce. The explanation will blow your mind. WATCH: The Speed of Darkness. Speed of Darkness is the name of the fifth studio album by the Irish-American Celtic punk band Flogging Molly that was released on 31 May 2011. The album was recorded at Echo Mountain, an old church building turned recording studio in Asheville, NC. The album was produced by Ryan Hewitt, who has worked with bands Red Hot Chili Peppers and The Avett Brothers. Speed of Darkness debuted at number nine on the Billboard 200 chart and number four on the Billboard Independent Chart. With the speed of darkness. III. Stillness during war, the lake. The unmoving spruces. Glints over the water. Faces, voices. You are far away. Muriel Rukeyser, “The Speed of Darkness” from The Collected Poems of Muriel Rukeyser. Copyright © 2006 by Muriel Rukeyser. Reprinted by permission of International Creative Management. Source: Out of Silence: Selected Poems (TriQuarterly Books, 1992). More About this Poem. Related. collection. Speed of darkness can not be calculated because it is nothing than the absence of light. The idea of a speed of darkness is no more than a poetic metaphor, but has no place in legitimate scientific discussion. If you expand the concept of dark, however, it may appear that the dark has a speed all its own. Consider a dark spot in a beam of light, which might be created by placing a piece of cloth or other object over part of the light source. While this dark spot might not meet strict criteria for total darkness, it travels at the same speed as the rest of the non-obstructed light [source: Univ