Homage to Montale

BARON WORMSER

This morning

The hummingbird's

Pure zigzag

Surprises you.

The indifference to

The long steps

Of your mood.

The bellflowers hold
Open their careful mouths,
The wind booms softly,
Stone breathes in and out
Millennia.

In various media

The Leader smiles as if

This smile

Were a sort of balm.

He repeats his words

Carefully

As if lecturing

A class of children

Who somehow are listening.

Aieee! Your head

Is full of human hurt.

Phrases will never

Anneal one

Scattered kiss of rain.

Always

You must walk

In the welcoming light.

You stick your hands out

And birds stream

Through your cautious love.