

# Poets

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## Takayama: A Dream In Japanese

1

*You feel, so far inland,  
in a seabird's midnight cry  
the loss of a baby daughter.*

2

By the river, where paper houses  
perch on stilts like herons  
in a rising tide, I sit  
and dangle feet in currents  
white as milk with melted snow, and wait  
till the river rises through my emptiness, fills  
my belly my heart my breasts, and breaks  
in ocean brine from my eyes.

3

*Why did you leave me  
for the open sky?  
Clouds rise, too,  
but in a fall of snow  
return to the earth.*

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