



Poetry Contest on a "Sense of Place" 2025

Winner: Get back to myself by Maira Baldiviezo (Spain)

Get back to myself

If my place is neither here nor there,

Is my soul condemned to wander in despair?

If my place is neither here nor there,

How long will it take until I find the way back to myself?

Belonging, a powerful word, a feeling I lack.

A relief I long for, but I don't know whom I can ask.

If my prayers are ever heard, will this sense of loss just fade away?

Frangible, I stand, without a place I can call home other than paper and pen.

Can a soul get lost in the labyrinth of the mind?

Can thoughts drown in oceans of ink?

I wonder, over and over, how far away I am from me.

But if the distress is so intense,

And the waves of wonder only rise,

If hope is the last to leave my side...

If my place is neither here nor there,

I'll hold on to believing that somewhere there's a little girl waiting for me,

Because she's braver than I am

And has the strength to call herself... home.