



### 3 Poems by Dr Barbaros İrdelmen

English translation by Huri ÖZDOĞAN

#### **Belle's Dance**

As the belle spun on the floor  
Drunken applause  
Was cracking the chest of the bar  
Sweaty gazes,  
Bodies gone mad with lust  
Beers ice-cold  
The minds are scattered.  
She was the belle of the age  
She knew her job well  
What she earned  
No one could ever calculate  
She commanded the peoples:  
You will buy fighter jets from me.  
You, your land  
And you, your oil  
You will give them to me  
Otherwise  
My smile will come down on your faces  
Like a slap  
I will beat you all...

#### **How much does it cost?**

I asked in the abstract market  
For a smile  
You cannot find, they said  
It's not a season for it  
Is there a laughter?  
No way, it is too unavailable  
Who lost it  
So that you can find it  
How much does love cost?  
Its lifespan is short  
It's so perishable, for a long while  
We don't put them on the counter  
What do we have in this season?  
Ass-kissing, flattery  
Lies, slander, fraudulency  
Insult, curse, disdain  
All of them are both fresh and easy  
Abundant in four seasons



### **If it's dark**

We parted suddenly, my love  
My mind is on you  
Are you alone?  
Are you unhappy?  
Do you miss me?  
What do you want from the world beyond?  
Just whisper  
If it's warm,  
Wind, coolness, rain  
If you're cold, the sun  
If the nights are dark,  
A bright moonlight  
Whatever you want  
From the other world  
I can send it right away

### **Bio:**



**Barbaros İrdelmen**, poet, writer, translator, and retired specialist in internal medicine and nephrology with 19 published poetry collections to date, his works have been included in numerous national and international anthologies and poetry festivals. Currently a poetry columnist for Edebiyat Magazin Newspaper and TV also contributes actively to prominent literary journals such as Pazartesi14 NEYYA Edebiyat, Kirpi Edebiyat ve Düşünce Dergisi, writer for the Papirus Magazine, Literature House, Our Poetry Archive, Atunis Galaxy Poetry writer. As a member of the Writers Syndicate of Turkey, he is also as a leading figure in the translation of world poetry written in English.