**DEPARTURE**

All must be left behind.

The surprise in eyes newly waked from sleep, profound,

The noises made by birds that stayed up at night -

The caress of the golden sunbeams upon the river

Which made the days of childhood touched by spring.

All must be left behind,

The tired languor of lazy afternoons

The spires of mountains in the horizons, meditating perhaps,

Shades of youth in decline, shadows lengthening

In the sad grey dusk.

Taking with you the dim manuscript of an unfinished life.

Voyaging across the seas, now.

Night thickens, but one must go

On the bark of remembrance -

And into oblivion.

(Translated by Santanu Majumdar from the Bengali poem, “Jaoa”, by Sugata Ghosh)