

Lingering Loneliness

Renade 2 Project: Recognizing, preventing and taking care of people with dementia in Brazil

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Key Notes

The poem is inspired by the relationships between caregiving sons and daughters of their mothers with dementia, noted and recorded in field research for the Renade2 research project, a feasibility study of interventions for the recognition, prevention, and care of people with dementia in Brazil. The Southern Cross constellation represents the Brazilian states and, also, the national identity - visible all year round, from North to South. It stands for the neurological basis of Alzheimer’s Disease. The researcher, observer and connoisseur, connects her experiences and stories into a shared arrangement of suffering and care strategies, . Like stars in a constellation.

An absentminded mother dances, laughing all-daylong
The exhausted daughter finds refreshment in umbu ice-cream

Canoes and ships, a lifetime forest blurs a mother's city gaze
The daughter strings up the hammock, streets become rivers



The researcher feels, sees, take notes

Salt-stained thread, tender hands
Dementia wearing, restoring bonds

Strangers
tied by primary care units

FIELD NARRATIVE

A daughter embroiders lace cushions
gifting the mother the love she never had

A son grieves, beside him the mother lures nocturnal
wiles
echoes of long-ago serenades

A daughter cradles the mother
giving birth to the unknown grandmother

A memoryless mother dances, laughing all-daylong
The exhausted daughter relieves on umbu ice-cream

Canoes and ships, a forest lifetime mists a mother's city
gaze
The daughter sets up the hammock, streets become
rivers

The researcher feels, sees, take notes

Salt-stained thread, tender hands
Dementia wearing, restoring bonds

Strangers
tied by primary care units
health community agents
fate

Unknowing
they share
a kind of pain
self-abandonment
unplanned surrender

Love

Brazilian constellation

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