

1963

## Country Morning

Sister Mary Janet

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PAUL PETRIE

**THE LAST YEARS OF A GERANIUM**

For five years, sucking the bereaved soil  
to the last mineral, then sucking the clay pot,  
and living like a cactus without rain  
through the long days when water did not fall

SUZANNE OSTRO ZAVRIAN

**RECAPITULATION**

Love is brave born in May meadow,  
Stream sprung, thrush sung, fragrant with grass;  
  
But grave is love danced by the sea's shore,  
Caught by the sea call, drawn to the sea's roar,  
Drowned in the sea tide, it is no more.

SISTER MARY JANET

**COUNTRY MORNING**

It is sweetly morning:  
the sun is fragrant  
on the jeweled grasses  
and along the stillness  
walk the doves.

SISTER MARY JANET

**THRESHOLD**

The door invites you—  
still you pause to weigh  
what alms to leave the past,  
what is expendable of love.