Lisboa, Lisboa

Barbara Varanka

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.butler.edu/booth

Recommended Citation
Available at: http://digitalcommons.butler.edu/booth/vol3/iss9/3

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by Digital Commons @ Butler University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Booth by an authorized editor of Digital Commons @ Butler University. For more information, please contact omacisaa@butler.edu.
Lisboa, Lisboa

Abstract

Lisboa, Lisboa

has arms that reach for you.
What is left of its lemon-stand
girl? Deep like a spoon you dig
for the city’s last breath.

Keywords

poetry, Portugal, metaphor, geography

This article is available in Booth: http://digitalcommons.butler.edu/booth/vol3/iss9/3
Lisboa, Lisboa

by Barbara Varanka

*Lisboa, Lisboa*

has arms that reach for you.
What is left of its lemon-stand
girl? Deep like a spoon you dig
for the city’s last breath.

Like Caravaggio’s Judith,
you are the bright gash and the sword,
the wine and fig
divided.

Dark bride of the desperate
rasp, you are the fat dripped
from a wrung accordion, a street
song drunk and stumbling,
a hundred ribcages

humming,
a belly full of
sofrimento

(To Amalia Rodrigues and her Portuguese guitar)

Barbara Varanka is a student in the Creative Writing MFA program at the University of Missouri – Kansas City. She likes to listen to Portuguese fado music at full blast with the windows open.