

# Waiting for Icarus

Muriel Rukeyser

He said he would be back and we'd drink wine together  
He said that everything would be better than before  
He said we were on the edge of a new relation  
He said he would never again cringe before his father  
He said that he was going to invent full-time  
He said he loved me that going into me  
He said was going into the world and the sky  
He said all the buckles were very firm  
He said the wax was the best wax  
He said Wait for me here on the beach  
He said Just don't cry

I remember the gulls and the waves  
I remember the islands going dark on the sea  
I remember the girls laughing  
I remember they said he only wanted to get away from me  
I remember mother saying : Inventors are like poets,  
a trashy lot  
I remember she told me those who try out inventions are worse  
I remember she added : Women who love such are the  
Worst of all  
I have been waiting all day, or perhaps longer.  
I would have liked to try those wings myself.  
It would have been better than this.