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Names

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Names

Dawn. The horizon
opens its eyelids a crack
and begins to see. What? Names.
They are on the filmy surface

of things. The rose
is still called
a rose today, and the memory
of its passage, haste.

Hurry to live more!
May that unripe strength of the Instant
elevate us to long love,
so agile

that upon arriving at its goal
it hurries to assert itself: Afterwards!
Alert, alert, alert!
I will be, I will be!

And the roses? Eyelids
closed: final
horizon. Perchance nothing?
But the names remain.

Jorge Guillen

Translated by Stan Rose