

Spring for Poetry in Takoma Park

A MATTER OF STATISTICS

They were twenty-two, said the report.
Seventeen men, three women,
Two children with bewildered eyes,
sixty-three shots, four Creeds,
three deep, muffled curses,
fourty-four feet with their shoes,
forty-four unarmed hands,
a single fear, a hatred that sizzles,
and a thousand silences putting on
bandages on the mangled soul.

CUESTIÓN DE ESTADÍSTICAS

Fueron veintidós, dice la crónica.
Diecisiete varones, tres mujeres,
dos niños de miradas aleladas,
sesenta y tres disparos, cuatro credos,
tres maldiciones hondas, apagadas,
cuarenta y cuatro pies con su zapatos,
cuarenta y cuatro manos desarmadas,
un solo miedo, un odio que crepita,
y un millar de silencios extendiendo
sus vendas sobre el alma mutilada.

— Piedad Bonnet

Translated from the Spanish by Nicolás Suescún

Spring for Poetry in Takoma Park, an urban poetry walk, is sponsored by the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library with assistance from the Takoma Park Department of Public Works. Designs of the poetry are by students at the School of Art and Design at Montgomery College. For more information about the Friends, visit www.FTPML.org

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