

# Spring For Poetry in Takoma Park

## In a Subway

Three women are dozing off,  
a woman's head leaning against a woman's shoulder,  
the woman's shoulder over a woman's chest,  
the woman's tiredness on another's worries,  
do, re, mi, side by side.

Three men are boarding,  
boring their way through the passengers' sluggish parboiled gazes;  
three men step into the swell of subway flesh  
packed tight as if wrapped in pork skin.

First, a beggar holds out his hand.  
Next a blind man sings a song.  
After them,  
a bushy-headed prophet shouts everyone awake,  
"Brothers and Sisters, prepare for the end!"  
Three women are dozing off.  
Three men are fast approaching.

Eleven o'clock in the morning,  
The subway is full of the unemployed.

*Choi Young-Mi*

*Trans. from the Korean by Yu Jung-Yul and James Kimbrell*

*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](http://www.FTPML.org).*

*Ana Maldonado, Designer*