



D.G. Zorich

The Painted Lake Between

-I-

A yawning sunlight pries
 into this inhospitable air;
 an acoustic shadow
marshals in upon itself—
 The water shines so hard!
 so bright, one dare not skip
a beat across its brittle glare,
 as if it had been stretched,
sunned tight, shore to shore,
 a causeway of fragility
 between hostile extremes:
The strident news of birth
 and here a fisted prayer.

-II-

Across the lake
on the other side of a myth,
a body stands;
 a fist connected to it
is shaking in the air at where

I am.
The water there between us
is graphite-tight:
I hope by now I know
exactly what it wants.

D.G. Zorich has attended colleges, universities and language institutes in Germany, France and the United States and currently lives in southern California. His work has appeared in many publications, including *The Pacific Review*, *Packington Review*, *Portland Review*, *Indefinite Space*, and *The Listening Eye*.