

EWA LIPSKA

Can Always Happen

Translated from Polish by Aga Gabor da Silva

Corrosive times
can always happen. Forever young
old servant of morality.
Catches trout with bare hands.
A slippery salacious sin.

You can always become
a worse breed of pigeons.
A traitor to the motherland.

But motherland stays away
from politics. She's a bookkeeper of centuries.
She adds up. Subtracts. Takes notes.
Contract expiration
is out of the question.

You can run away from her. Leave.
Like our friend did.

Longing ate away
holes in his lungs.

When he came back to his country
he moved into an urn.