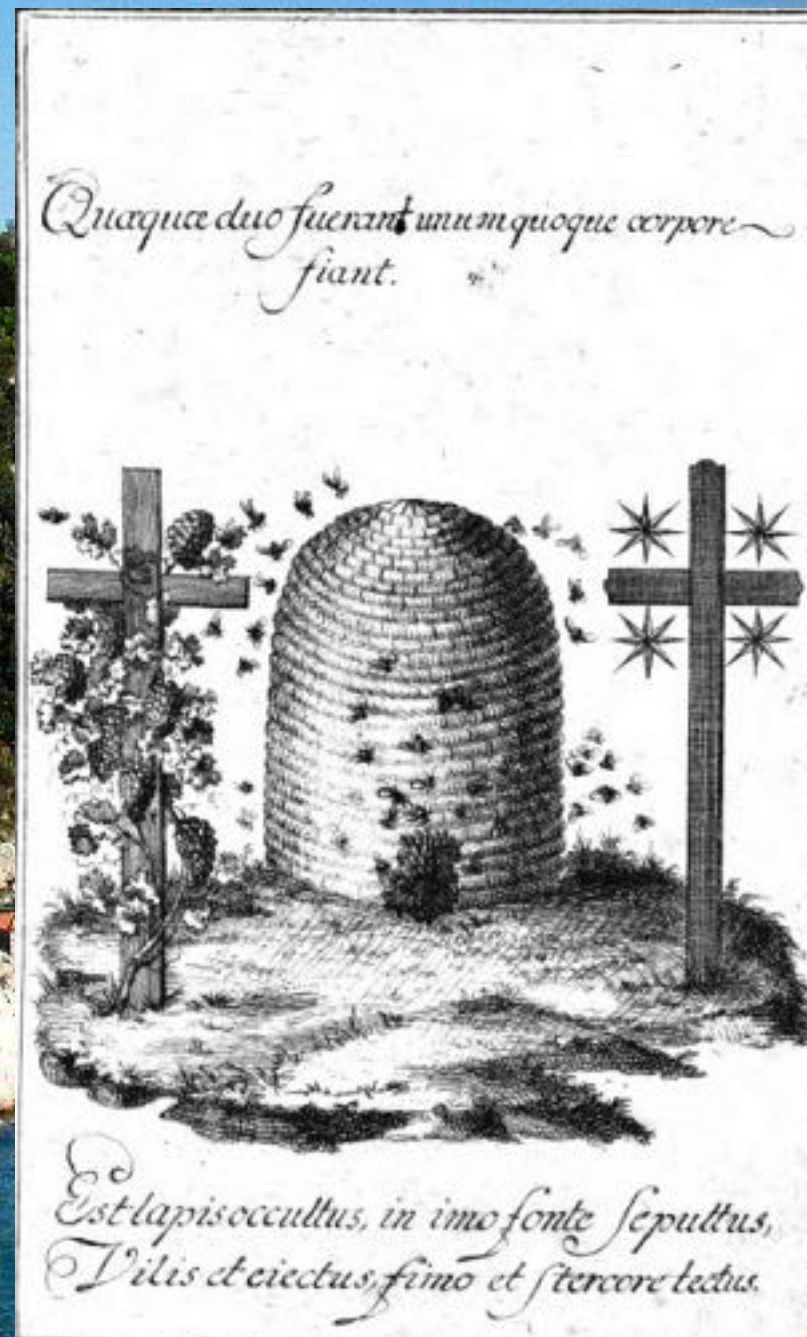


The Duino Elegies

The Task of Transformation

We are the bees of the invisible. We wildly collect the honey of the invisible, to store it in the great golden hives of the invisible.



There is a hidden stone, buried in the depths of a fountain, It is vile and rejected, covered in dung or faeces./

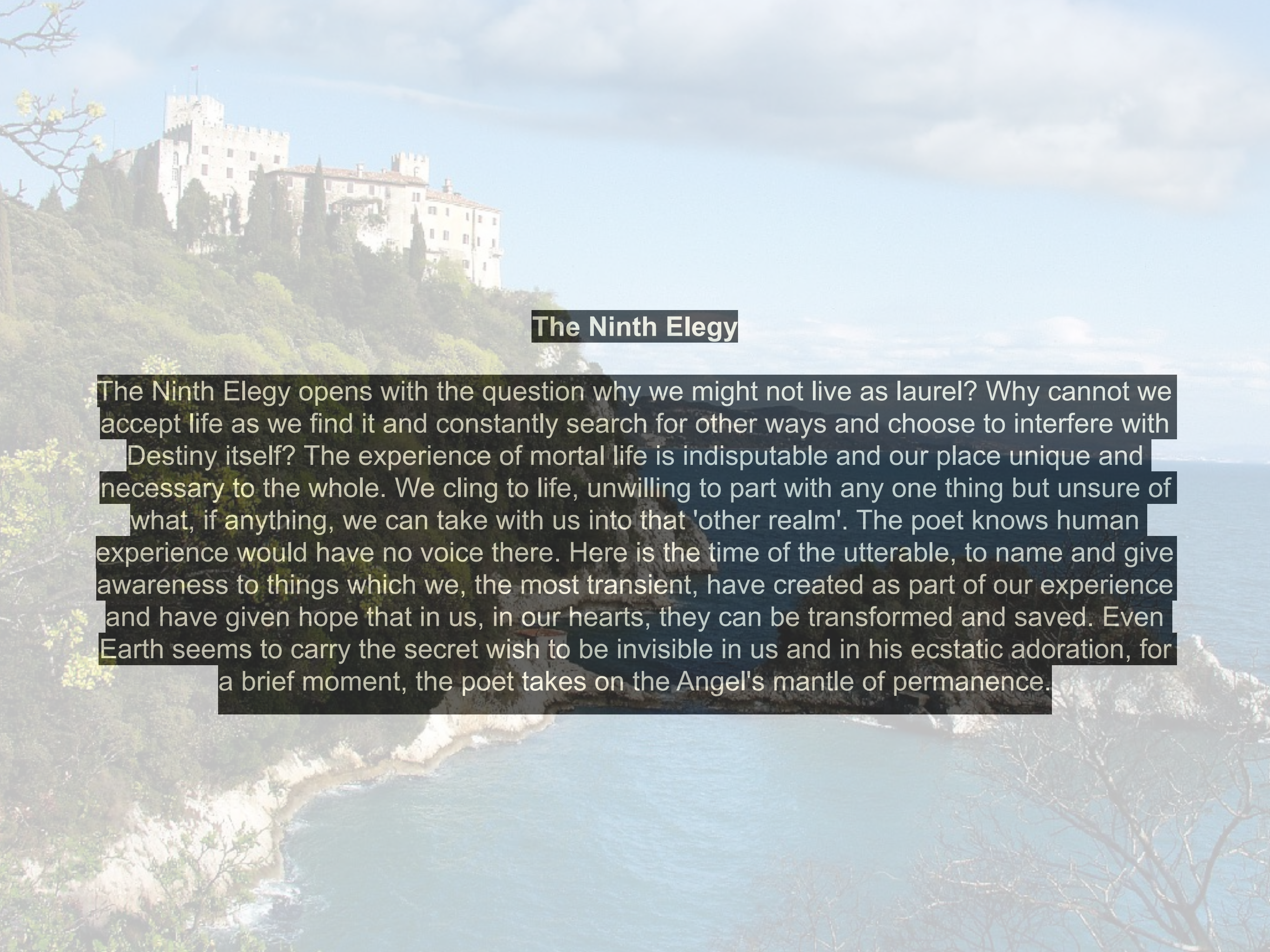
The Duino Elegies

Die Duino Elegien (1912-1922)

Wenn es nur einmal so ganz stille wäre.
Wenn das Zufällige und Ungefährere
verstummt und das nachbarliche Lachen,
wenn das Geräusch, das meine Sinne machen,
mich nicht so sehr verhinderte am Wachen -

Dann könnte ich in einem tausendfachen
Gedanken bis an deinen Rand dich denken
und dich besitzen (nur ein Lächeln lang),
um dich an alles Leben zu verschenken
wie einen Dank.

https://youtu.be/vPX_H5lb0sk

A scenic view of a medieval castle perched on a hill overlooking the sea. The castle is a large, light-colored stone building with multiple towers and battlements. It is surrounded by lush green trees and vegetation. The sea is visible in the foreground, with waves crashing against the shore. The sky is blue with some clouds.

The Ninth Elegy

The Ninth Elegy opens with the question why we might not live as laurel? Why cannot we accept life as we find it and constantly search for other ways and choose to interfere with Destiny itself? The experience of mortal life is indisputable and our place unique and necessary to the whole. We cling to life, unwilling to part with any one thing but unsure of what, if anything, we can take with us into that 'other realm'. The poet knows human experience would have no voice there. Here is the time of the utterable, to name and give awareness to things which we, the most transient, have created as part of our experience and have given hope that in us, in our hearts, they can be transformed and saved. Even Earth seems to carry the secret wish to be invisible in us and in his ecstatic adoration, for a brief moment, the poet takes on the Angel's mantle of permanence.

Duino Elegy 9





