

THE WALL FOUNTAIN



Paul Murray

Do not be surprised
if he is still there at the corner
of your thoughts, as once
 at the corner of your street,
the man of stone, that sad
exhausted man who leans out
 from the wall fountain
still holding in his marble hands
a barrel of stone that leaks
 water like time.
And do not be amazed if you can
still hear the sound that
 wakes in you
so many memories. Listen and
listen deep and well. Then
 let them pass.
For in or near this place
you love, this source, you cannot
 stop or trap the water
as it spills, or keep these days
and hours, these months and weeks,
 from being poured away.