

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.