

HENDRI YULIUS WIJAYA

TRANSLATED BY EDWARD GUNAWAN

Translator's Note

These poems were written in Bahasa Indonesia mixed with a spattering of English words and expressions. They were published in the full-length collection *Stonewall Tak Mampir di Atlantis* (*There's No Stonewall in Atlantis*) by Indonesian publisher Buku Mojok Grup in 2020. In keeping with the author's intentions of highlighting the plurality of languages in the original text, the translator has approached the translation in the following ways:

- *Italicized* text denotes English words that appear in original poems.
- Commonwealth English words and expressions in original poems have been translated into American contexts and spellings.

Ouija

burned alive

Mira now a wandering spirit
roaming through HRC Report.pdf
conjured ritualistically in an air-conditioned room
for the loyal spectators of international conference attendees
speaking in codes and formulas of toggle P-value & $y=a+bx$ &
SOGIESC
her visitation no longer expected
lost as Mira was in her journey to the afterlife
after a brief transit on the powerpoint slide screen
in the back of the auditorium
an *office boy* and a security guard
chew on cuds of *frequent flier cards*
Mira pays her own way home

In April 2020, accused of stealing, Mira, a transgender woman, was assaulted and burned alive by a group of men in Cilincing, North Jakarta.

Jelangkung

Mira dibakar hidup-hidup
jadi arwah penasaran
gentayangan dalam laporan HAM.pdf
pada sebuah ritual jelangkung dalam ruang ber-AC
peserta konferensi internasional duduk serupa penonton
setia uka-uka berbagi wangsit dalam
kode-kode dan angka-angka seumpama togel P-value &
 $y=a+bx$ & SOGIESC tak lagi anteng
menanti Mira yang sempat tersesat mencari akhirat untuk
transit sebentar di layar slide
powerpoint
di belakang auditorium
office boy dan sekuriti
khususnya memahami biak *kartu-kartu frequent flyer*
Mira pulang pakai ongkos sendiri

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Pada bulan April 2020, setelah dituduh mencuri, Mira, seorang transgender perempuan, dianiaya dan dibakar hidup-hidup oleh sekelompok lelaki di Cilincing, Jakarta Utara.

Money Boy

Much too great is the distance
between a male therapist and the CEO of Apple
Twitter is now LinkedIn:

Professional male masseur. Privacy & Safe.

Well-Education. Fast Response WA: 1800-XX.

no matter how quick of a reply
they will always ask for a break
even though the signature *heavenly touch* is already discounted
20%

exclusively for *early bird*

rescheduling allowed 5 times maximum

diligently reading *Kompas*, *Tirto*, *Detik.com*, and occasionally
The Economist. At the minimum, an intellectual

conversation during our time together

post-coital pillow talk in lecture-form

on the falling global prices of crude oil

not every gay man can be Tim Cook

but we are all *money boys*

for there's always a cost to living.

Money Boy

ada jarak yang terlampau sukar untuk ditempuh

antara male therapist dan CEO Apple

Twitter sudah berubah fungsi jadi LinkedIn:

Professional male masseur. Privacy & Aman.

Well-Education. Fast Respons WA: 081XX.

secepat-cepat respons

selalu saja mereka minta diskon

padahal untuk *heavenly touch* servis andalan sudah promo

20%

khusus *early bird*

reschedule diperbolehkan maksimal 5x

rajin menekuni *Kompas*, *Tirto*, *Detik.com*, dan sesekali

The Economist. biar setidaknya tergendar

intelekt sepanjang servis.

post-coital pillow talk sembari memberi kuliah

tentang menurunnya harga minyak dunia

tak setiap homo bisa jadi Tim Cook

namun, semua orang adalah *money boy*

karena hidup butuh duit

American Queer Theory

Because, just like a fate line across one's palm, so it is written: a prophet will always be rejected outright by his people. Often he had to crucify himself.

Long ago, an English-language BBC radio program informed that your pair of feet doesn't always have to match the home address on your ID. At the bottom of those shoes, lies hidden is a piece

of the shattered fiber-glass globe from biology lab. At twenty-two, on the day of the international scholarship's announcement, you came out to your parents, who were too cheerful to be angry. Foucault parts the sea to a promised land. A liberation. But the tongue doesn't always yield a smooth

journey. Unsure whether *knowledge* should be plural or singular. Those vampire-skinned's applauded. When he'd completed his paper written in tongues of the holy spirits. Hegel, de Beauvoir, Butler, and Althusser. Even though he is not yet a Ph.D., let alone a postdoc

in Europe. The more theories steeped in *cup noodles*, the whiter his skin becomes. At times he feels like going home, despite the color of his passport being different now. Like when he was at a gay club and suddenly he felt like he wasn't gay anymore. Like when he was with a group of Indonesian students and suddenly

he felt like he wasn't Indonesian either. That night he finally did fulfill his wish to crucify himself.

At a *BDSM* party. To be born again.

American Queer Theory

sebab seperti garis takdir, ada tertulis: seorang nabi selalu ditolak mentah-mentah di kampung halamannya sendiri. Sering pula ia harus menyalibkan dirinya sendiri.

jauh-jauh hari, program bahasa Inggris radio BBC mengabarkan sepasang kakimu bahwa alamat rumah tak harus selalu sepadan dengan KTP. Di ujung mulut sepatu, kamu menyembunyikan serpihan fiber bola dunia yang

terpelanting pecah di laboratorium biologi. Saat dua puluh dua, pada hari pengumuman beasiswa negeri empat musim, kau coming out pada ibu-bapakmu yang kepalang riang untuk murka. Foucault membelah laut untuk sebuah tanah perjanjian. Sebuah pembebasan. Lidah tak melulu patuh pada pavement

yang klimis. Ia tak tahu apakah *knowledge* seharusnya plural atau singular. Orang-orang berkulit vampir bertepuk tangan. Ketika ia menuntaskan makalah berbahasa roh-roh kudus. Hegel, de Beauvoir, Butler, dan Althusser. Padahal ia belum Ph.D., apalagi post-doc di

Eropa. Makin banyak teori yang diseduh dalam *cup noodles*, makin putih pula kulitnya. Kadang ia ingin pulang, meski sampul paspornya sudah ganti warna. Seperti saat ia berada di kelab malam gay dan mendadak merasa bukan gay lagi. Seperti saat ia berada di kelompok mahasiswa Indonesia dan mendadak merasa

bukan Indonesia lagi. Malam itu genaplah tekadnya untuk menyalibkan dirinya sendiri:

Di sebuah *BDSM* party. Supaya terlahir baru.