from *Distant Flames* by Abdelkrim Tabal translated by Wendy Walker and Rabia Zbakh pdf download from www.wendywalker.com

Truth

A coach

bowls along backwards, with us inside it

and the demented coachman

all alone

bowls along in front

.

who himself reports this hallucination

so you'd better believe him

عَرَبَةً تجَرِي بِنَا إِلَى الوَرَاء وَالحُوذِيُّ المجَنُونُ وَحدَهُ تجَرِي بِهِ إِلَى الأمَام هُوَ الذي يقُولُ هَذَا الهَذَيَان فَصَدِّقُوه

شعامة

Gallantry

A cactus

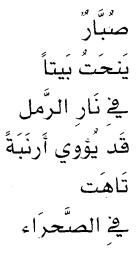
stamps a dwelling

on the sand's fire

may lodge a rabbit

lost

in the desert



Excerpt from Wendy Walker and Rabia Zbakh, trans. Distant Flames by Abdelkrim Tabal, pdf download from www.wendywalker.com Beside the River

It enveloped me

and took out my heart

and said:

Here you are

a beach on my hands

naked of sands

and winds

Here they are

A small gazelle

bounds over the shells

and the waves

Confess,

you who pretend chivalry,

the guilt of madness.

ق منى القلب ثم قَال: ها أنستَ الآن شاطئٌ عَلَى يدي مَكْتُسُوفَ الرملِ والرَّيَاحُ هاهي الآن غـــزالَـــة م مغب ق تخطر فوق المدفات والأمسواج فلتعترف يامدُعي الفراسة بتهمة الجنون

أمام النهر

Excerpt from Wendy Walker and Rabia Zbakh, trans. **Distant Flames** by Abdelkrim Tabal, pdf download from www.wendywalker.com

Some

Lost

in the waste or someone's arms

what's the difference

you haven't much of a way with either night

poor guy

choose exile

its boundary the taper

in poetry's house

تيهانٌ يَف القَفر أو الكَفِّ سَوَاء لاَ مَنجَى لَكَ من أَحَد اللَّيلَين يَا حَيرَان فَتَخَيَّر مَنفَى حَافَتُهُ ... قنديلٌ فِج بَيت الشِّعر

Excerpt from Wendy Walker and Rabia Zbakh, trans. Distant Flames by Abdelkrim Tabal, pdf download from www.wendywalker.com