

philippine studies

Ateneo de Manila University • Loyola Heights, Quezon City • 1108 Philippines

What is Emotion? The Passion After

Tita Lacambra Ayala

Philippine Studies vol. 13, no. 1 (1965): 109–110

Copyright © Ateneo de Manila University

Philippine Studies is published by the Ateneo de Manila University. Contents may not be copied or sent via email or other means to multiple sites and posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's written permission. Users may download and print articles for individual, noncommercial use only. However, unless prior permission has been obtained, you may not download an entire issue of a journal, or download multiple copies of articles.

Please contact the publisher for any further use of this work at philstudies@admu.edu.ph.

<http://www.philippinestudies.net>
Fri June 30 13:30:20 2008

TWO POEMS by Tita Lacambra Ayala

What Is Emotion?

It restricts
or expands the capacity
to flowering, or to illusion:
vertebrally or wide
depending on the guide:

If eagle—
swooping fiercely, eyed
and eyeing for involvement
deep by, upon each peak
each mountainside, each bed
of river dammed to full
or dry to bone
carrion by the sun.

Tektite—
a calculated cold impassive arc
of light bearing no grudge
nor brunt
nor wily disinterestedness:
a scalpel, cutting edge of bright
probes and then proves the element
of darkness
with such precision it involves
no flight
but a possession of lunar places.
What is emotion?

Both these
the knit capacity to endure and give
what there is to endure
what there is to give.

The Passion After

He with dark hands
touched reddened drapery
away from body lips
stepped down the cross
to the damp clod
leaving purple toeflowers
legended there
like archeologic beginnings.
Only this was the end
of an ached breast.
With every step the wood-
ness of his back
lightened towards his father
drywhite lips drank
from proffered cup.