

# La main de Thôt

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Varia traduits

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## « Found in translation », version originale en anglais

Elaine Equi

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🔗 <http://interfas.univ-tlse2.fr/lamaindethot/1064>

### Référence électronique

Elaine Equi, « « Found in translation », version originale en anglais », *La main de Thôt* [En ligne], 10 | 2022, mis en ligne le 22 décembre 2022, consulté le 11 mai 2023. URL : <http://interfas.univ-tlse2.fr/lamaindethot/1064>

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## TEXTE

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1 I've always liked reading poetry in translation. In fact, I prefer it that way.

2 Poetry is the sound one language makes when it escapes into another.

3 Whatever you think you've missed is, as the saying goes, better left to the imagination.

4 It gives even a mediocre poem an ineffable essence.

5 Greater involvement on the part of the reader leads to greater enjoyment.

6 A bad translation, a clumsy one, is especially charming.

7 The poem is whatever cannot be killed by the translator.

8 Its will to survive, its willingness to be uprooted and flee its homeland is admirable. I almost want to say virile.

9 An untranslated poem is too attached to its author. It's too raw.

10 An untranslatable poem that hordes its meaning, whose borders are too guarded, is better unsaid.

11 For years, I copied authors from around the world. Then one day it occurred to me, perhaps it's the translator I imitate, not the poet. This idea pleases me and makes me want to write more.

12 It would be great to learn French in order to read William Carlos Williams.

13 Translators are the true transcendentalists.

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## AUTEUR

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<https://griffinpoetryprize.com/poem/found-in-translation/>