

## Elegy to Reinhart Buyno

*Afonso Teixeira Filho*

Blank pages  
It was my desk that needed to be cleaned  
I cannot find my papers... they were here  
where are they?  
There was dust on my desk  
There will be forever  
I cannot find my papers  
I had to do that, but I will not anymore  
I do not even know where my hands are  
I cannot concentrate  
I am at the point of losing my mind  
Because I lost my papers  
Which should be removed from my desk

I have cleaned my desk, my desk is clean  
Clean of dust, clean of papers  
Clean of my hands  
It seems that my hands are dirty  
It is impossible to write  
Because I lost my papers and lost my mind

There was a blank page  
It has gone  
And will be forever

Let me say goodbye at least  
But I will not  
Because forever is for never more  
And I will never see more  
Because my friend has gone and left a blank page on  
my desk

I could not concentrate since he left  
Because he went away and will never come back  
He left a blank page  
Something must be written on this page  
Many things must be written on this page  
This page should show a poem about him  
It cannot be that he has left a blank page  
A blank page on the desk  
He had so many things to say

We need to hear what he had to say  
But what he had to say he will not say anymore  
He left  
He went away  
He never will come back  
And we will not hear

Everything we have is a blank page  
I cannot concentrate  
He has things to say  
The papers on my desk  
But he went away

Where are you? Could you tell me?  
Where do you live now?  
Do I know this place?  
I should know. It is a better place, a commonplace

Teixeira Filho, Afonso. *Elegy to Reinhart Buyno*.

I should say  
You must tell me

Please, come back some day  
Some day I would find my place  
I would find my papers  
I would find your place  
just to say farewell  
But now I have to go, my friend  
I have to polish my shoes.