

Collected Poems

Attila József

August 9, 2025

Chapter I

1934

I.I Consciousness (*Eszmélet*)

I

Dawn unbinds sky from earth	1
and at its clear, soft word	2
beetles and children	3
spin forth into the daylight;	4
there is no moisture in the air,	5
the bright levity floats!	6
Overnight they alighted on the trees	7
like small butterflies, the leaves.	8

<i>Földtől¹ eloldja² az eget³</i>	1
<i>a hajnal⁴ s tiszta⁵, lágy⁶ szavára⁷</i>	2
<i>a bogarak,⁸ a gyerekek</i>	3
<i>kipörögnek⁹ a napvilágra¹⁰;</i>	4
<i>a levegőben¹¹ semmi pára¹²,</i>	5
<i>a csilló¹³ könnyűség lebeg.¹⁴</i>	6
<i>Az éjjel¹⁵ rászálltak¹⁶ a fákra,¹⁷</i>	7
<i>mint¹⁸ kis¹⁹ lepkék,²⁰ a levelek.²¹</i>	8

Chiastic structure:

1-4: e-e(8)/á-[r]a(9)/e-e(8)/á-[r]a(9)

5-8: á-[r]a(9)/e-e(8)/á-[r]a(9)/e-e(8)

¹*föld* “earth” + ablative *-től* “without/from”

²*el-* “away” + vb. *old* “to unbind” + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. def. *-ja*

³*ég* “sky” + acc. *-et* → *eget*

⁴“dawn”

⁵adj. “bright”

⁶adj. “soft”

⁷*szó* “voice”, “word” + 3rd pers. sg. single poss. *-a* → *szava* + subl. *-ra*

“onto/by” → *szavára*

⁸*bogár* “beetle” + pl. *-(a)k* → *bogarak*

⁹vb. *kipörög* “to spin” + 3rd pers. pl. ind. pres. indef. *-nek*

¹⁰*nap* “sun/day” + *világ* “world” + subl. *-ra* “onto/by”

¹¹*levegő* “air” + inessive *-ben* “in”

¹²“moisture”, “mist”

¹³vb. *csillog* “to glitter” + adj.-forming *-o* → *csilló*; usually *csillogó*

¹⁴vb. *lebeg* “to float (in the air)”, 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.

¹⁵*éj* “night” + instrumental *-vel* “with” → *éjjel*

¹⁶pointed action *rá-* “on” + vb. *száll* “to fly/to land” + 3rd pers. sg. past indef. *-tak*

¹⁷*fa* “tree” + pl. *-k* + subl. *-ra* “onto/by” → *fákra*

¹⁸“like”

¹⁹“small”

²⁰*lepké* “butterfly” + pl. *-k* → *lepkék*

²¹*level* “leaf” + pl. *-(e)k*

II

I saw paintings daubed with blue,	1
red, yellow in my dreams	2
and felt that everything was just so —	3
not one speck of dust flying madly about.	4
Now a blur, my dream reaches my members	5
and the iron world is in order.	6
During the day a moon rises inwardly and,	7
when the night is out, a sun shines within.	8

<i>Kék, piros, sárga, összekent</i> ²²	1
<i>képeket</i> ²³ <i>láttam</i> ²⁴ <i>álmaimban</i> ²⁵	2
<i>és úgy éreztem,</i> ²⁶ <i>ez a rend</i> ²⁷ —	3
<i>egy szalló</i> ²⁸ <i>porszem</i> ²⁹ <i>el nem hibbant.</i> ³⁰	4
<i>Most homályként</i> ³¹ <i>száll tagjaimban</i> ³²	5
<i>álmom s a vas</i> ³³ <i>világ a rend.</i>	6
<i>Nappal</i> ³⁴ <i>hold</i> ³⁵ <i>kel</i> ³⁶ <i>bennem</i> ³⁷ <i>s ha</i> ³⁸ <i>kinn</i> ³⁹ <i>van</i>	7
<i>az éj</i> ⁴⁰ — <i>egy nap süt</i> ⁴¹ <i>idebent.</i> ⁴²	8

Chiastic structure:

1-4: e-ent(8)/ai-an(9)/a-rend(8)/i-an(9)

5-8: i-an(9)/a-rend(8)/ai-an(9)/e-ent(8)

²² *össze* “together” + *ken* “smear” → *összekent* + 3rd pers. sg. past indef. -*t*

²³ *kép* “picture” + pl. -(e)*k* + acc. -*et*

²⁴ vb. *lát* “to see” + short base -*t*, 1st pers. sg. past def. -*tam*

²⁵ *álom* “dream” + 1st pers. sg. poss. -*a* + poss. pl. -*i* + 1st pers. sg. pers. -*m*
+ inessive -*ban* “in” → *álmaimban*

²⁶ vb. *érez* “to feel”, 1st pers. sg. past def.

²⁷ “order”

²⁸ vb. *száll* “to fly” + pres. part. -*ó*

²⁹ “a speck of dust”

³⁰ vb. *hibban* “to become imbalanced”, arch. + past part. -*t*

³¹ *homály* “blur” + essive formal -*ként* “as”

³² *tag* “member” + 1st pers. sg. poss. -*ja* + poss. pl. -*i* + 1st pers. sg. pers. -*m*
+ inessive -*ban* “in” → *tagjaimban*

³³ “iron”

³⁴ *nap* “day” + instrumental -*val* “with” → *nappal*

³⁵ “moon”

³⁶ vb. “to rise”, 3rd pers. sg. pres. def., arch. alt. *kel*

³⁷ pron. *benne* “inside smth/smb” + 1st pers. sg. pers. -*m*

³⁸ “when”

³⁹ “outside”

⁴⁰ “night”

⁴¹ vb. “to roast/to shine”, 3rd pers. sg. pres. indef.

⁴² adv. *ide* “here” + *bent* “within”

I.I. CONSCIOUSNESS (*ESZMÉLET*)

7

III

I am thin, at times I only eat bread;	1
amidst those idle and blithering souls,	2
I seek in vain more certainty, like the die.	3
No chuck roast reaches my mouth	4
while I cuddle a small child to my heart —	5
however clever, the cat cannot catch at once	6
the mouse outdoors and the one indoors.	7

<i>Sóvány</i> ⁴³ vagyok, csak kenyeret ⁴⁴	1
<i>eszem</i> ⁴⁵ néha, ⁴⁶ <i>e</i> ⁴⁷ léha, ⁴⁸ locska ⁴⁹	2
<i>lelkek</i> ⁵⁰ közt ⁵¹ ingyen ⁵² keresek ⁵³	3
<i>bizonyosabbat</i> , ⁵⁴ <i>mint</i> ⁵⁵ a kocska. ⁵⁶	4
<i>Nem dörgölődzik</i> ⁵⁷ sült ⁵⁸ lopcska ⁵⁹	5
<i>számhoz</i> ⁶⁰ s szívemhez ⁶¹ kisgyerek ⁶² —	6
<i>ügyeskedhet</i> , ⁶³ <i>nem fog</i> ⁶⁴ a macska ⁶⁵	7
<i>egyszerre</i> ⁶⁶ <i>kint</i> ⁶⁷ s bent ⁶⁸ egeret. ⁶⁹	8

Chiastic structure:

1-4: e-ret(8)/o-cska(9)/e-ek(8)/o-cska(9)

5-8: o-cska(8)/e-ek(8)/a-cska(8)/e-ret(8) — same length

⁴³“slim”, “thin”, fig. “poor”

⁴⁴*kenyér* “bread” + acc. -et → *kenyeret*

⁴⁵vb. *esz* “to eat”, rare without verbal pref., inf. *enni* + 1st pers. sg. ind. pres. def. -em → *eszem*

⁴⁶adv. “sometimes”

⁴⁷poetic abbrv. *eme/ez* “this”

⁴⁸“improvident/idler”

⁴⁹adj. “blethering”

⁵⁰*lélek* “soul” + pl. -(e)k → *lelkek*

⁵¹post. “between/amid” from *között*: *köz* “interval” + locative -ött

⁵²fig. arch. “in vain”, usually “free of charge”

⁵³vb. *keres* “to seek” + 1st pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.

⁵⁴adj. *bizonyos* “certain” + comp. -abb “more” + acc. -t

⁵⁵“like”

⁵⁶“a die”

⁵⁷vb. “to press against”, 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.

⁵⁸vb. *sül* “to roast” + past part. -t

⁵⁹“chuck” (shoulder meat cut, probably pork)

⁶⁰*száj* “mouth” + 1st pers. sg. single poss. -m → *szám* + allative -hoz “towards” → *számhoz*

⁶¹*szívem* “heart” + allative -hez “towards”

⁶²*kis* “small” + *gyerek* “child”

⁶³vb. *ügyesked* “to be clever” + 3rd pers. sg. pres. potential -het

⁶⁴vb. “to hold”, 3rd pers. sg. pers. indef.

⁶⁵“cat”

⁶⁶adv. *egyszer* “at once” + ablative -re “onto”

⁶⁷adv. “outside”

⁶⁸adv. “inside”

⁶⁹*egér* “mouse” + acc. -t → *egeret*

IV

Just like a pile of logs,	1
the world lies in a jumble;	2
each thing presses, weighs on,	3
holds fast to another,	4
and so everything is determined.	5
Only what is not has a shrub,	6
only that will be that flower;	7
what is falls to pieces.	8

<i>Akár⁷⁰ egy halom⁷¹ hasított⁷² fa,⁷³</i>	1
<i>hever⁷⁴ egymáson⁷⁵ a világ,⁷⁶</i>	2
<i>szorítja,⁷⁷ nyomja,⁷⁸ összefogja⁷⁹</i>	3
<i>egyik⁸⁰ dolog⁸¹ a másikat⁸²</i>	4
<i>s így⁸³ mindenik⁸⁴ determinált.⁸⁵</i>	5
<i>Csak⁸⁶ ami⁸⁷ nincs, annak⁸⁸ van bokra,⁸⁹</i>	6
<i>csak⁹⁰ ami lesz,⁹¹ az a virág,</i>	7
<i>ami van, szétbull⁹² darabokra.⁹³</i>	8

Chiastic structure:

1-4: o-a(9)/i-á(8)/o-a(9)/i-á(8)

5-8: i-á(8)/o-a(9)/i-á(8)/o-a(9)

⁷⁰conj. literary “just like”

⁷¹“pile/heap”

⁷²vb. *hasít* “to cleave/to split” + past. part. *-ott*

⁷³“tree”

⁷⁴vb. “to lie”, 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.

⁷⁵pron. *egymás* “each other/one another” + superessive *-on* “on”

⁷⁶“world”

⁷⁷vb. *szorít* “to press/to constrict”, inf. *szorítani* + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres.

def. *-ja*

⁷⁸vb. *nyom* “to weigh” + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. def. *-ja*

⁷⁹*össze* “together” + vb. *fog* “to hold” + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. def. *-ja*

⁸⁰*egy* “one” + 3rd pers. pl. poss. *-ik* “of”

⁸¹“thing”

⁸²pron. *másik* “another” + acc. *-at (-át?)*

⁸³“just so”

⁸⁴adv. *minden* “everyone/everything”

⁸⁵Latin *determinare* + vb.-forming *-ál* “to determine” + past part. *-t*

⁸⁶adv. “only”

⁸⁷rel. pron. “which/that”

⁸⁸art. *az* “that” + attr. poss. *-nak* → *annak*

⁸⁹*bokor* “shrub/bush” + 3rd pers. sg. single poss. *-a*

⁹⁰adv. “only”

⁹¹vb. “to become”, 3rd pers. sg. ind. fut. indef.

⁹²vb. “to fall apart”, 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.

⁹³adv. *darab* “piece/chunk” + pl. *-ok* + subl. *-ra* “into”

V

At the freight train station,	1
I lay down just so behind the tree's butt,	2
like a piece of silence;	3
a grey weed reached my mouth,	4
raw, strange-sweet.	5
Playing dead, I watched the guard, sensing what,	6
and the shadow on the quiet wagons	7
stubbornly leaping at the bright, dewy coal.	8

<i>A teherpályaudvaron</i> ⁹⁴	1
<i>úgy</i> ⁹⁵ <i>lapultam</i> ⁹⁶ <i>a fa</i> ⁹⁷ <i>tövéhez</i> , ⁹⁸	2
<i>mint</i> ⁹⁹ <i>egy darab</i> ¹⁰⁰ <i>csönd</i> ¹⁰¹ ; <i>szürke</i> ¹⁰² <i>gyom</i> ¹⁰³	3
<i>ért</i> ¹⁰⁴ <i>számhoz</i> , ¹⁰⁵ <i>nyers</i> , ¹⁰⁶ <i>különös-édes</i> .	4
<i>Holtan</i> ¹⁰⁷ <i>lestem</i> ¹⁰⁸ <i>az őrt</i> , ¹⁰⁹ <i>mit</i> ¹¹⁰ <i>érez</i> , ¹¹¹	5
<i>s a hallgató</i> ¹¹² <i>vagónokon</i> ¹¹³	6
<i>árnyát</i> , ¹¹⁴ <i>mely</i> ¹¹⁵ <i>ráugrott</i> ¹¹⁶ <i>a fényes</i> , ¹¹⁷	7
<i>harmatos</i> ¹¹⁸ <i>szénre</i> ¹¹⁹ <i>konokon</i> . ¹²⁰	8

Chiastic structure:

⁹⁴*teher* “freight” + *pálya* “track” + *udvar* “courtyard” (*pályaudvar* “train station”) + superessive *-on* “on”

⁹⁵adv. “so (in this/that manner)”

⁹⁶vb. *lapul* “to lie low” + 1st pers. sg. past indef. *-tam*

⁹⁷“tree”

⁹⁸*tő* “base of the stem of a plant” + 3rd pers. sg. single poss. *-e* “of” → *tövé* + allative *-hez* “towards” → *tövéhez*

⁹⁹“like”

¹⁰⁰“piece”

¹⁰¹“silence”, alt. *csend*

¹⁰²adj. “grey”

¹⁰³“weed”

¹⁰⁴vb. *ért* “to reach/to understand”, arch. “to touch”, 3rd pers. sg. past indef.

¹⁰⁵*száj* “mouth” + 1st pers. sg. single poss. *-m* → *szám* + allative “towards” *-hoz* → *számhoz*

¹⁰⁶adj. “raw”

¹⁰⁷*holt* “dead” + adv.-forming *-an*

¹⁰⁸vb. *les* “to spy” + 1st pers. sg. past indef. *-tem*

¹⁰⁹*őr* “guard” + acc. *-t*

¹¹⁰inter. “what”

¹¹¹vb. “to feel/to smell/to taste”, 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.

¹¹²vb. *hallgat* “to remain silent/to listen” + adj.-forming *-ag*

¹¹³*vagón* “wagon” + pl. *-ok* + superessive *-on* “on”

¹¹⁴*árny* “shadow/ghost” + acc. *-at* (*-át?*)

¹¹⁵literary, “which/that”

¹¹⁶pointed action *ra-* “at” + vb. *ugrik* “to leap/to jump” + 3rd pers. sg. ind. past. indef. *-ott* → *ugrott*

¹¹⁷adj. “bright”

¹¹⁸adj. “dewy”

¹¹⁹*szén* “coal” + subl. *-re* “onto”

¹²⁰adj. *konok* “stubborn” + superessive *-on* “on (that manner)”

I-4: a-o(8)/é-e(9)/e-o(8)/é-e(9)
5-8: é-e(9)/o-o(8)/é-e(9)/o-o(8)

VI

Behold the anguish inside,	1
yet the explanation lies outside.	2
Your wound is the world — on fire, burning up —	3
and <i>you</i> feel your soul, the fever.	4
You are captive as long as your heart rebels —	5
then you are free if it indulges	6
not building for yourself a house	7
where a landlord settles in.	8

<i>Im</i> ¹²¹ <i>itt a szenvedés</i> ¹²² <i>belül</i> , ¹²³	1
<i>ám</i> ¹²⁴ <i>ott kívül</i> ¹²⁵ <i>a magyarázat</i> . ¹²⁶	2
<i>Sebed</i> ¹²⁷ <i>a világ — ég</i> , ¹²⁸ <i>bevil</i> ¹²⁹	3
<i>s te lelkedet</i> ¹³⁰ <i>érezed</i> , ¹³¹ <i>a lázat</i> . ¹³²	4
<i>Rab</i> ¹³³ <i>vagy, amíg</i> ¹³⁴ <i>a szíved</i> ¹³⁵ <i>lázad</i> ¹³⁶ —	5
<i>úgy</i> ¹³⁷ <i>szabadulsz</i> , ¹³⁸ <i>ha</i> ¹³⁹ <i>kényedül</i> ¹⁴⁰	6
<i>nem raksz</i> ¹⁴¹ <i>magadnak</i> ¹⁴² <i>olyan</i> ¹⁴³ <i>házat</i> , ¹⁴⁴	7
<i>melybe</i> ¹⁴⁵ <i>háziúr</i> ¹⁴⁶ <i>települ</i> . ¹⁴⁷	8

Chiastic structure:

1-4: e-ül(8)/á-at(9)/e-ül(8)/á-at(9)

5-8: á-ad(9)/e-ül(8)/á-at(9)/e-ül(8)

¹²¹literary, abbrev. *íme* “here is/ behold”

¹²²vb. *szenved* “to suffer” + noun-forming -*és*

¹²³“inside”

¹²⁴poetic, interj. contrad. “but”

¹²⁵adv. “outdoor/outside”

¹²⁶vb. *magyaráz* “to explain” + noun-forming -*at*

¹²⁷*seb* “wound” + 2nd pers. sg. single poss. -*ed*

¹²⁸vb. “to be on fire”, 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.

¹²⁹vb. “to grow hot”, 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.

¹³⁰*lélek* “soul” + 2nd pers. sg. single poss. -*ed* → *lelked* + acc. -*et*

¹³¹vb. *érez* “to feel”, 2nd pers. sg. ind. pres. def.

¹³²*láz* “fever” + acc. -*at*

¹³³“captive”

¹³⁴adv. “as long as”; “until” if followed by negated verb

¹³⁵*szíved* “heart” + 2nd pers. sg. single poss. -*ed*

¹³⁶vb. *to rebel*, 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.

¹³⁷*úgy ... ha ...* “then ... if ...”

¹³⁸*szabad* “free” + vb.-forming -*ul* + 2nd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef. -*sz*

¹³⁹“if”

¹⁴⁰literary, vb. “to indulge”, 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.

¹⁴¹vb. *rak* “to set up/to build”, 2nd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef. -*sz*

¹⁴²*maga* “oneself” + 2nd pers. sg. single poss. -*d* + dat. -*nak*

¹⁴³pron. “such/that kind of thing”

¹⁴⁴*ház* “house” + acc. -*at*

¹⁴⁵literary, arch. *mely* which” + illative -*be* “into (the inside of)”

¹⁴⁶*ház* “house” + adj.-forming “of the” -*i* + *úr* “master”

¹⁴⁷vb. “to settle (somewhere)”, 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.

VII

I looked up from beneath the evening	1
to the cogwheels of the heavens —	2
from the glittering threads of chance	3
the loom of the past wove the law;	4
and I looked up again onto the sky	5
from beneath the steam of my dreams,	6
and I saw the fabric of the law	7
always tearing up somewhere.	8

<i>Én fölnéztem</i> ¹⁴⁸ <i>az est</i> ¹⁴⁹ <i>alól</i> ¹⁵⁰	1
<i>az eget</i> ¹⁵¹ <i>fogaskerekére</i> ¹⁵² —	2
<i>csilló</i> ¹⁵³ <i>véletlen</i> ¹⁵⁴ <i>szálaiból</i> ¹⁵⁵	3
<i>törvényt</i> ¹⁵⁶ <i>szótt</i> ¹⁵⁷ <i>a mult</i> ¹⁵⁸ <i>szövőszéke</i> ¹⁵⁹	4
<i>és megint</i> ¹⁶⁰ <i>fölnéztem az égre</i> ¹⁶¹	5
<i>álmaim</i> ¹⁶² <i>gőzei</i> ¹⁶³ <i>alól</i>	6
<i>s láttam</i> ¹⁶⁴ <i>a törvény szövédéke</i> ¹⁶⁵	7
<i>mindig</i> ¹⁶⁶ <i>fölfeslik</i> ¹⁶⁷ <i>valahol</i> ¹⁶⁸	8

Chiastic structure:

1-4: a-ól(8)/é-e(9)/a[i]-ól(9)/é-e(9)

5-8: é-e(9)/[i]a-ól(8)/é-e(9)/a-ol(8)

¹⁴⁸vb. pref. *föl-* “up/upwards” + vb. *néz* “to look” + 1st pers. sg. past. def. *-tem*

¹⁴⁹arch. “(in the) evening”

¹⁵⁰*al* “lower part” + abl. *-l* “from”

¹⁵¹*ég* “sky” + acc. *-(e)t*

¹⁵²*fogas* “tooth” + *kerék* “wheel”: “cogwheel” + 3rd pers. sg. single poss. *-e* + subl. *-re* “towards”

¹⁵³vb. *csillog* “to glitter” + adj.-forming *-o* → *csilló*; usually *csillogó*

¹⁵⁴“chance”

¹⁵⁵*szál* “thread” + 3rd pers. sg. poss. *-a* + poss. pl. *-i* + elative *-ból* “from/out of”

¹⁵⁶*törvény* “law/principle” + acc. *-t*

¹⁵⁷vb. *sző* “to weave”, past part.

¹⁵⁸*mult*? rare, past part. “past”, inf. *mulik*

¹⁵⁹*szövő* “weaver” + *szék* “chair”: “loom” + 3rd pers. sg. single poss. *-e*

¹⁶⁰*meg* “again” (short action) + adv.-forming *-int*

¹⁶¹*ég* “sky” + subl. sg. *-re* “onto”

¹⁶²*álom* “dream” + 1st pers. sg. poss. *-a* + poss. pl. *-i* + 1st pers. sg. pers. *-m*

¹⁶³*gőz* “steam, vapour” + 3rd pers. sg. poss. *-e* + pl. poss. *-i*

¹⁶⁴vb. *lát* “to see” + short base *-t*, 1st pers. sg. past def. *-tam*

¹⁶⁵*szövédék* “fabric/cloth/web” + 3rd pers. sg. single poss. *-e*

¹⁶⁶*mind* “always” (repetition) + term. “until” *-ig*

¹⁶⁷vb. pref. *föl-* “up/upwards” + arch., poetic, vb. *feslik* “to come unstitched”, 3rd pers. sg. pres. indef.

¹⁶⁸“somewhere”

VIII

The silence listened intently — One struck.	1
You could visit your childhood;	2
between the damp cement walls	3
you could imagine a bit of freedom —	4
I thought. And as soon as I stood up,	5
the stars, the Great Bear	6
indeed were glittering above,	7
like the grilles up in the silent cell.	8

<i>Fülett</i> ¹⁶⁹ <i>a csend</i> ¹⁷⁰ — <i>egyet</i> ¹⁷¹ <i>ütött</i> ¹⁷²	1
<i>Fölkereshetnéd</i> ¹⁷³ <i>ifjúságod</i> ¹⁷⁴	2
<i>nyirkos</i> ¹⁷⁵ <i>cementfalak</i> ¹⁷⁶ <i>között</i> ¹⁷⁷	3
<i>képzelhetsz</i> ¹⁷⁸ <i>egy kis szabadságot</i> ¹⁷⁹ —	4
<i>gondoltam</i> ¹⁸⁰ <i>S bár</i> ¹⁸¹ <i>amint</i> ¹⁸² <i>fölálllok</i> ¹⁸³	5
<i>a csillagok</i> ¹⁸⁴ <i>a Göncölök</i> ¹⁸⁵	6
<i>úgy fénylenek</i> ¹⁸⁶ <i>fönt</i> ¹⁸⁷ <i>mint a rácsok</i> ¹⁸⁸	7
<i>a hallgatag</i> ¹⁸⁹ <i>cella</i> ¹⁹⁰ <i>fölött</i> ¹⁹¹	8

Chiastic structure:

- ¹⁶⁹*fül* “ear” + vb.-forming *-el*: “to listen (intently)” + 3rd pers. ind. past indef. *-t*
- ¹⁷⁰“silence”. alt. *csönd*
- ¹⁷¹*egy* + acc. *-t*
- ¹⁷²vb. *üt* “to strike” + 3rd pers. sg. ind. past indef. *-(ö)tt*
- ¹⁷³*föl*- “up/upwards” + *keres* “to seek”: “to visit” + pot. “may/might” *het* + 2nd pers. sg. ind. pres. cond. *-ned*, alt. *felkeres*
- ¹⁷⁴adj. *ifjú* “young” + noun-forming *-ság* (state of being): “youth” + 2nd pers. informal sg. poss. single poss. *-od*: “your childhood” (informal)
- ¹⁷⁵adj. “humid/damp”
- ¹⁷⁶*cement* “cement” + *fal* “wall” + pl. *-ak*
- ¹⁷⁷post. “between/amid”, *köz* “interval” + locative *-ött*
- ¹⁷⁸*kép* “image” + vb.-forming *-(z)el*: “to imagine” + pot. *-het* + 2nd pers. sg. ind. pres. *-sz*
- ¹⁷⁹*szabad* “free” + *-ság* (state of being): “freedom” + acc. *-at*
- ¹⁸⁰vb. *gondol* “to think/plan/guess/worry” + 1st pers. sg. ind. past indef./def. *-tam*
- ¹⁸¹“back body”, “well...”, “then/and/but” (questioning back), “surely/of course”
- ¹⁸²*az* + *mint* “like”: “as soon as”, literary “as”
- ¹⁸³*föl*- “up/upwards” + vb. *láll* “to stand” + 1st pers. sg. ind. pres. indef. *-ok*, alt. *felálllok*
- ¹⁸⁴*csillag* “star” + pl. *-ak*
- ¹⁸⁵*Göncöl* + pl. *-ök*: “the Great Bear” (constellation)
- ¹⁸⁶*fény* “light” + freq. vb.-forming *-lik*: “to glitter” + 3rd pers. pl. ind. pres. indef. *-ek*
- ¹⁸⁷adv. “above/up/awake/upstairs”, alt. *fent*
- ¹⁸⁸*rács* “grid/grille” + pl. *-ok*
- ¹⁸⁹vb. *hallgat* “to remain silent/to listen” + adj.-forming *-ag*
- ¹⁹⁰“cell”
- ¹⁹¹*föl*- “up/upwards” + loc. *-ött*: “above”, alt. *elett*

1-4: ü-ö[tt](8)/á-o(9)/ö-ö[tt](8)/á-o(9)

5-8: á-o[k](9)/ö-ö(8)/á-o[k](9)/ö-ö[tt](8)

IX

I heard iron weeping,	1
I heard rain laughing.	2
I saw that the past was cracked	3
and that only memories may be forgotten,	4
and how I cannot but love,	5
bending under my burdens —	6
why would I need to forge a weapon	7
out of you, golden self-awareness!	8

<i>Hallottam</i> ¹⁹² <i>sírni</i> ¹⁹³ <i>a vasat</i> , ¹⁹⁴	1
<i>hallottam az esőt</i> ¹⁹⁵ <i>nevetni</i> . ¹⁹⁶	2
<i>Láttam</i> , ¹⁹⁷ <i>hogy</i> ¹⁹⁸ <i>a mult</i> ¹⁹⁹ <i>meghasadt</i> ²⁰⁰	3
<i>s csak</i> ²⁰¹ <i>képzetet</i> ²⁰² <i>lehet</i> ²⁰³ <i>feledni</i> , ²⁰⁴	4
<i>s hogy</i> ²⁰⁵ <i>nem tudok</i> ²⁰⁶ <i>mást</i> , ²⁰⁷ <i>mint</i> ²⁰⁸ <i>szeretni</i> , ²⁰⁹	5
<i>görnyedve</i> ²¹⁰ <i>terheim</i> ²¹¹ <i>alatt</i> ²¹² —	6
<i>minek</i> ²¹³ <i>is</i> ²¹⁴ <i>kell</i> ²¹⁵ <i>fegyvert</i> ²¹⁶ <i>veretni</i> ²¹⁷	7
<i>belőled</i> , ²¹⁸ <i>arany</i> ²¹⁹ <i>öntudat!</i> ²²⁰	

Chiastic structure:

-
- ¹⁹²vb. *hall* “to hear” + 1st pers. sg. ind. past def. *-ottam*
¹⁹³vb. *sír* “to cry/weep” + inf. *-ni*
¹⁹⁴*vas* “iron” + acc. *-(a)t*
¹⁹⁵vb. *es*, inf. *esik* + pres. part. *-ő* + acc. *-t*
¹⁹⁶vb. *nevet* “to laugh”, inf. *nevetni*
¹⁹⁷vb. *lát* “to see” + short base *-t*, 1st pers. sg. past def. *-tam*
¹⁹⁸adv. “how”
¹⁹⁹*mult*? rare, past part. “past”, inf. *múlik*
²⁰⁰vb. pref. perfective *meg-* + vb. *hasad* “to crack/split apart” + past part.
-t
²⁰¹adv. “only”
²⁰²*képzet* “idea/image/notion” + acc. *-t*
²⁰³pot. vb. *van/lesz*: “may be/may become” + 3rd pers. sg. ind.
²⁰⁴lit. vb. *feled* “to forget”, alt. *felejt*
²⁰⁵adv. “how”
²⁰⁶vb. *tud* “to know” or aux. “can + inf.” + 1st pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
-ok
²⁰⁷adj. *más* “other/different” + acc. *-t*
²⁰⁸comp. different degrees “than”
²⁰⁹inf. vb. *szeret* “to love”
²¹⁰vb. *görnyed* “to bend (under a burden)” + adv.-forming *-ve*
²¹¹*teher* “freight/burden” + 1st pers. sg. poss. mult. poss. *-eim* → *terheim*
²¹²post. *al-* “lower part” + loc. *-(a)tt*
²¹³*mi* + dat. *-nek*: “for what”
²¹⁴doublet of *és* “and”
²¹⁵aux. vb. “must/need to/have to + inf.”
²¹⁶*fegyver* “weapon” + acc. *-t*
²¹⁷inf. vb. “to hammer”, alt. *veretés*
²¹⁸pron. *belőle* “out of him/her/it” + 2nd pers. sg. *-d*
²¹⁹“gold/golden”
²²⁰“self-awareness”

1-4: a-a[t](8)/e[t]-[n]i(9)/a-a[dt](8)/e[d]-[n]i(9)
 5-8: e[t]-[n]i(9)/a-a[tt](8)/e[t]-[n]i(9)/u-a[t](8)