Collected Poems

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Chapter 1

You are so silly.	I
You run like the morning wind,	2
sometime you'll be knocked down by a car.	3
By the way, I scrubbed clean my little table,	4
and now the tender light of my bread shines purer.	5
Well, come back; if you want	6
I'll buy a blanket for my iron bed.	7
A plain, grey blanket.	8
It suits my Poverty, who loves you,	9
and the Lord loves you also very much,	IO
and He also loves me.	II
The Lord never comes in great radiance,	12
He does not want to destroy our eyes,	13
which long to see you,	I4
and will look at you very beautifully.	15
When you come back, I will kiss you carefully,	16
I won't tear off your coat.	17
I will tell you all the many jokes,	18
because I devised many since then,	19
and how merry you'll be and will blush,	2.0
how you'll look down to the ground,	2.1
and we will crack up	2.2
and be heard at the neighbours';	23
the quiet, serious day labourers will hear us,	2.4
and in their tired, shattered dreams,	25
they will also have your smile.	26

Olyan bolond vagy	I
szaladsz	2
akár a reggeli szél.	3
Még elüt valamelyik autó.	4
Pedig lesikáltam kis asztalomat	5
és most	6
tisztábban világít kenyerem enyhe fénye.	7
No gyere vissza, ha akarod	8
veszek takarót vaságyamra.	9
Egyszerű, szürke takarót.	10
Illik az	II
szegénységemhez, aki szeret téged	12
és az Úr is szereti nagyon	13
és engem is szeret az Úr	14
nem jön soha nagy fényességgel	15
Nem akarja, hogy elromoljanak	16
szemeim, akik	17
nagyon kívánnak látni téged.	18
És nagyon szépen néznek majd terád	19
ha visszajössz	20
vigyázva foglak megcsókolni,	21
nem tépem le rólad a kabátot	22
és elmondom mind a sok tréfát,	23
mert sokat kieszeltem azóta,	24
hogy te is örülj,	25
majd elpirulsz,	26
lenézel a földre és kacagunk	27
hangosan, hogy behallatszik szomszédunkba	28
a szótlan, komoly napszámosokhoz is behallik	29
és fáradt, összetört	30
álmukban majd elmosolyodnak ők is.	31

Ősze

Note: The edition by *Szépirodalmi könyvkiadó*, page 169, misses two verses and a conjunction.

Chapter 2

1934

French

Consciousness (Eszmélet)

I

Dawn unbinds sky from earth

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Ι

Földtől¹ eloldja² az eget³	I
a hajnal ⁴ s ⁵ tiszta ⁶ , lágy ⁷ szavára ⁸	2
a bogarak, ⁹ a gyerekek	3
kipörögnek¹º a napvilágra¹¹;	4
a levegőben¹² semmi pára¹³,	5
a csilló¹⁴ könnyűség¹⁵ lebeg!¹¹6	6
Az éjjel ¹⁷ rászálltak ¹⁸ a fákra, ¹⁹	7
mint ²⁰ kis ²¹ lepkék, ²² a levelek. ²³	8

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I-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)
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<sup>1</sup> föld 'earth' + abl. -től 'without/from'
<sup>2</sup> vb. pref. el- 'away' + vb. old 'to unbind' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. def. -ja
 ^{3} ég 'sky' + acc. -et \rightarrow eget
4 'dawn'
 <sup>5</sup> poetic abbrv. es 'and' (does not count as a syllable)
<sup>6</sup> adj. 'bright'
7 adj. 'soft'
 ^8 szó 'voice', 'word' + 3rd pers. sg. single poss. -a 	o szava + subl. -ra 'by' 	o szavára
9 bogár 'beetle' + pl. -(a)k \rightarrow bogarak
<sup>10</sup> vb. kipörög 'to spin' + 3rd pers. pl. ind. pres. indef. -nek
пар 'sun/day' + világ 'world' + subl. -ra 'onto'
12 levegő 'air' + innes. -ben 'in'
13 'moisture/mist'
^{14} vb. \it csillog 'to glitter' + adj.-forming -\it o 
ightarrow \it csilloj; usually \it csillogo
15 könnyű 'simplicity/easiness' + noun-forming -ség (state of being)
<sup>16</sup> vb. lebeg 'to float (in the air)', 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
<sup>17</sup> poetic \acute{ej} 'night' + instr. -vel 'with' \rightarrow \acute{ejjel}
pointed action rá- 'on' + vb. száll 'to fly/land/to come down' + 3rd pers. sg. past indef. -tak
<sup>19</sup> fa 'tree' + pl. -k + subl. -ra 'onto' \rightarrow f\acute{a}kra
<sup>20</sup> 'like'
21 'small'
<sup>22</sup> lepke 'butterfly' + pl. -k \rightarrow lepk\acute{e}k
^{23} level 'leaf' + pl. -(e)k
```

	CONSCIOUSNESS	/
2 T		(<i>F</i>
4.1.	COLINGCIO COLINEGO	

II

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

Cursory remark

Verses 1-4 are about the night, verses 5-7 transition to the day, and verse 8 brings us back to the night — this cyclic structure supporting the mismatched, recurring alternance of days and nights.

French

l'ai vu des tableaux barbouillés de bleu,	I
rouge et jaune dans mes rêves	2
et je sentis que tout était en ordre —	3
pas un seul grain de poussière qui vole agité.	4
Maintenant mon rêve descend, estompé, dans mes membres,	5
et le monde de fer est l'ordre.	6
Avec le jour, une lune point en moi et,	7
à la nuit tombée, un soleil brille ci-dedans.	8

7

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Kék, piros, sárga, összekent<sup>24</sup>
                                                                                                                     Ι
képeket<sup>25</sup> láttam<sup>26</sup> álmaimban<sup>27</sup>
                                                                                                                     2
és úgy éreztem,28 ez a rend29 —
                                                                                                                     3
egy szalló<sup>30</sup> porszem<sup>31</sup> el<sup>32</sup> nem hibbant.<sup>33</sup>
                                                                                                                     4
Most homályként<sup>34</sup> száll<sup>35</sup> tagjaimban<sup>36</sup>
                                                                                                                     5
álmom s a vas<sup>37</sup> világ a rend.
                                                                                                                     6
Nappal<sup>38</sup> hold<sup>39</sup> kél<sup>40</sup> bennem<sup>41</sup> s ha<sup>42</sup> kinn<sup>43</sup> van
                                                                                                                     7
az éj<sup>44</sup> — egy nap süt<sup>45</sup> idebent.<sup>46</sup>
                                                                                                                     8
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Chiastic structure:

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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)
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45 vb. 'to roast/shine', 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.

46 adv. ide 'here' + bent 'within'

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<sup>24</sup> \ddot{o}ssze 'together' + ken 'smear' \rightarrow \ddot{o}sszeken + 3rd pers. sg. past indef. -t
   ^{25} kép 'picture' + pl. -(e)k + acc. -(e)t
   ^{26} vb. lát 'to see' + short base -t + 1st pers. sg. past def. -tam
   ^{27} álom 'dream' + 1st pers. sg. poss. -a + poss. pl. -i + 1st pers. sg. pers. -m + innes. -ban 'in' \rightarrow
álmaimban
   <sup>28</sup> vb. érez 'to feel', 1st pers. sg. past def.
   29 'order'
   <sup>30</sup> vb. száll 'to fly' + pres. part. -ό
   31 'a speck of dust'
   <sup>32</sup> el nem + past. part.; the verbal prefix el emphasises the completion of the action
   <sup>33</sup> vb. hibban 'to become imbalanced', arch. + past part. -t
   34 homály 'blur' + essive formal -ként 'as'
   35 vb. 'to land/to come down', 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres.
   ^{36} tag 'member' + 1st pers. sg. poss. -(j)a + poss. pl. -i + 1st pers. sg. pers. -m + innes. -ban 'in' \rightarrow
tagjaimban
   <sup>37</sup> 'iron'
   ^{38} nap 'day' + instr. -val 'with' \rightarrow nappal
   39 'moon'
   40 vb. 'to rise', 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. def., arch. alt. kel
   <sup>41</sup> pron. benne 'inside smth/smb' + 1st pers. sg. pers. -m
   42 'when'
   43 'outside'
   44 'night'
```

2.I. CONSCIOUSNESS (ESZMÉLET)

III

I am thin, at times I only eat bread;	I
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	(
the mouse outdoors and the one indoors.	7

Cursory remark

J cannot pursue his art and, at the same time, keep a job that would put real food on his table. Cuddling a small child to his heart is his metaphor for the creation of poetry. J is the cat in verses 6-7.

Je suis maigre, parfois je ne mange que du pain;	I
entouré par ces âmes oisives et bavardes,	2
je cherche en vain plus de certitude, comme le dé.	3
Aucun rôti de palette ne trouve ma bouche	4
quand j'étreins un enfant sur mon cœur —	5
aussi fûté soit-il, le chat ne peut attrapper d'un coup	6
la souris dehors et celle dedans.	7

Sóvany ⁴⁷ vagyok, csak kenyeret ⁴⁸	I
eszem ⁴⁹ néha, ⁵⁰ e ⁵¹ léha, ⁵² locska ⁵³	2
lelkek ⁵⁴ közt ⁵⁵ ingyen ⁵⁶ keresek ⁵⁷	3
bizonyosabbat, ⁵⁸ mint ⁵⁹ a kocska. ⁶⁰	4
Nem dörgölődzik ⁶¹ sült ⁶² lopcska ⁶³	5
számhoz ⁶⁴ s szivemhez ⁶⁵ kisgyerek ⁶⁶ —	6
ügyeskedhet, ⁶⁷ nem fog ⁶⁸ a macska ⁶⁹	7
egyszerre ⁷⁰ kint ⁷¹ s bent ⁷² egeret. ⁷³	8

Chiastic structure:

⁷³ egér 'mouse" + acc. -(e)t \rightarrow egeret

```
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
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<sup>47</sup> 'slim/thin', fig. 'poor'
<sup>48</sup> kenyér 'bread' + acc. -(e)t \rightarrow kenyeret
<sup>49</sup> vb. esz 'to eat', rare without verbal pref., inf. enni + 1st pers. sg. ind. pres. def. -em \rightarrow eszem
50 adv. 'sometimes'
51 poetic abbrv. eme/ez 'this'
52 'improvident/idler'
53 adj. 'blethering'
54 lélek 'soul' + pl. -(e)k \rightarrow lelkek
55 post. 'between/amid' from között: köz 'interval' + loc. -ött
<sup>56</sup> fig. arch. 'in vain'; usually 'free of charge'
<sup>57</sup> vb. keres 'to seek' + 1st pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
58 adj. bizonyos 'certain' + comp. -abb 'more' + acc. -t
<sup>59</sup> 'like'
60 'a die'
<sup>61</sup> vb. 'to press against', 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
62 vb. sül 'to roast' + past part. -t
<sup>63</sup> 'chuck' (shoulder meat cut, probably pork)
<sup>64</sup> száj 'mouth' + 1st pers. sg. single poss. -m \rightarrow szám + allat. -hoz 'towards' \rightarrow számhoz
65 szivem 'heart' + allat. -hez 'towards'
66 kis 'small' + gyerek 'child'
<sup>67</sup> vb. ügyesked 'to be clever' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. potential -het
<sup>68</sup> vb. 'to hold', 3rd pers. sg. pers. indef.
<sup>70</sup> adv. egyszer 'at once' + abl. -re 'onto'
71 adv. 'outside'
72 adv. 'inside'
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2.I. CONSCIOUSNESS (ESZMÉLET)

IV

Just like a pile of logs,	I
the world lies in a jumble;	2
each thing presses, weighs on,	3
holds fast to the next,	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

Cursory remark

'To be or not to be' is usually construed as the dichotomy between life and death. J tells us that not-to-be is potential beauty, whereas to-be is actual death.

French

Tout comme un tas de bûches,	I
le monde gît en vrac ;	2
chaque chose presse, pèse,	3
s'arrime à l'autre,	4
et ainsi tout est déterminé.	5
Seul ce qui n'est pas a un arbuste,	6
seul cela sera cette fleur;	7
ce qui est tombera en pièces.	8

II

Akár ⁷⁴ egy halom ⁷⁵ hasított ⁷⁶ fa, ⁷⁷	I
hever ⁷⁸ egymáson ⁷⁹ a világ, ⁸⁰	2
szorítja, ⁸¹ nyomja, ⁸² összefogja ⁸³	3
egyik ⁸⁴ dolog ⁸⁵ a másikát ⁸⁶	4
s így ⁸⁷ mindenik ⁸⁸ determinált. ⁸⁹	5
Csak ⁹⁰ ami ⁹¹ nincs, annak ⁹² van bokra, ⁹³	6
csak ⁹⁴ ami lesz, ⁹⁵ az a virág,	7
ami van, széthull ⁹⁶ darabokra. ⁹⁷	8

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1-4: 0-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)
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<sup>74</sup> conj. literary 'just like'
75 'pile/heap'
<sup>76</sup> vb. hasít 'to cleave/split' + past. part. -ott
<sup>78</sup> vb. 'to lie', 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
<sup>79</sup> pron. egymás 'each other/one another' + super. -on 'on'
80 'world'
<sup>81</sup> vb. szorít 'to press/constrict', inf. szorítani + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. def. -ja
82 vb. nyom 'to weigh' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. def. -ja
<sup>83</sup> össze 'together' + vb. fog 'to hold' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. def. -ja
84 egy 'one' + 3rd pers. pl. mult. poss. -ik 'of'
85 'thing'
<sup>86</sup> adj. m\acute{a}s 'other' + noun-forming -ik \rightarrow 'another' + 3rd pers. sg. single poss. -a + acc. -t \rightarrow -\acute{a}t
87 'just so'
88 adv. minden 'everyone/everything'
<sup>89</sup> Latin determinare + vb.-forming -ál 'to determine' + past part. -t
90 adv. 'only'
91 rel. pron. 'which/that'
^{92} art. az 'that' + attr. poss. -nak \rightarrow annak
93 bokor 'shrub/bush' + 3rd pers. sg. single poss. -a
94 adv. 'only'
95 vb. 'to become', 3rd pers. sg. ind. fut. indef.
<sup>96</sup> vb. 'to fall apart', 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
97 adv. darab 'piece/chunk' + pl. -ok + subl. -ra 'into'
```

\mathbf{V}

At the freight train station,]
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.	9
Playing dead, I watched the guard, sensing what,	(
and his shadow on the quiet wagons	
stubbornly leaping at the bright, dewy coal.	8

Cursory remark

This is likely a memory from J's childhood, when his family was so poor that he would occasionally steal lumps of coal from the wagons at the freight train station nearby his home.

À la gare de fret,	I
je m'étalai ainsi derrière le pied de l'arbre,	2
comme un morceau de silence;	3
une herbe grise atteignit ma bouche,	4
crue, étrange-sucrée.	5
Faisant le mort, je regardais le garde, suspectant quoi,	6
et son ombre qui, sur les wagons silencieux,	7
s'entêtait à bondir sur les charbons reluisants,	8
couverts de rosée.	9

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A teherpályaudvaron<sup>98</sup>
                                                                                                                       Ι
úgy99 lapultam100 a fa101 tövéhez,102
                                                                                                                       2
mint<sup>103</sup> egy darab<sup>104</sup> csönd<sup>105</sup>; szürke<sup>106</sup> gyom<sup>107</sup>
                                                                                                                       3
ért<sup>108</sup> számhoz, <sup>109</sup> nyers, <sup>110</sup> különös <sup>111</sup>-édes. <sup>112</sup>
                                                                                                                       4
Holtan<sup>II3</sup> lestem<sup>II4</sup> az őrt, <sup>II5</sup> mit<sup>II6</sup> érez, <sup>II7</sup>
                                                                                                                       5
s a hallgatag<sup>118</sup> vagónokon<sup>119</sup>
                                                                                                                       6
árnyát, 120 mely 121 ráugrott 122 a fényes, 123
                                                                                                                       7
harmatos<sup>124</sup> szénre<sup>125</sup> konokon. <sup>126</sup>
                                                                                                                       8
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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)
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98 teher 'freight' + pálya 'track' + udvar 'courtyard' + super. -on 'on'
   99 adv. 'so (in this/that manner)'
  100 vb. lapul 'to lie low' + 1st pers. sg. past indef. -tam
   t\ddot{o} 'base of the stem of a plant' + 3rd pers. sg. single poss. -e 'of' \to t\ddot{o}ve + allat. -hez 'towards' \to
tövéhez
   103 'like'
  104 'piece'
  ios 'silence', alt. csend
  106 adj. 'grey'
  107 'weed'
  <sup>108</sup> vb. ért 'to reach', arch. 'to touch', fig. 'to understand', 3rd pers. sg. past indef.
  <sup>109</sup> száj 'mouth' + 1st pers. sg. single poss. -m \rightarrow szám + allat. 'towards' -hoz \rightarrow számhoz
   по adj. 'raw'
   III 'strange'
   112 'sweet'
   113 holt 'dead' + adv.-forming -an
   ^{\text{II4}} vb. les 'to spy' + 1st pers. sg. past indef. -tem
   ^{\text{II5}} őr 'guard' + acc. -t
   п6 inter. 'what'
   <sup>117</sup> vb. 'to feel/smell/taste', 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
   <sup>118</sup> vb. hallgat 'to remain silent/to listen' + adj.-forming -ag
   "9 vagón 'wagon' + pl. -ok + super. -on 'on'
  ^{120} árny 'shadow/ghost' + 3rd pers. sg. single poss. -a + acc. -t \rightarrow -\acute{a}t
   12.1 literary, 'which/that'
   pointed action ra- 'at' + vb. ugrik 'to leap/jump' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. past. indef. -(o)tt 	o ugrott
   <sup>123</sup> f\acute{e}ny 'light/glitter' + adj.-forming -es \rightarrow 'bright'
  124 adj. 'dewy'
   125 szén 'coal' + subl. -re 'onto'
   <sup>126</sup> adj. konok 'stubborn' + super. -on 'on (that manner)'
```

2.I. CONSCIOUSNESS (ESZMÉLET)

15

VI

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

Cursory remark

We are not captives of the world, but of our own heart, which invited the world (the landlord) in for us to contend with. The inner struggle is felt as anguish and yields a feverish soul.

Voici le tourment intérieur,	I
pourtant l'explication se trouve à l'extérieur.	2
Ta blessure est le monde — en feu, s'échauffant —	3
et tu sens ton âme, la fièvre.	4
Tu es captif tant que ton cœur se révolte —	5
ainsi tu es libre s'il se complaît	6
à ne plus bâtir pour toi une maison	7
où un propriétaire vient demeurer.	8

Im ¹²⁷ itt a szenvedés ¹²⁸ belül, ¹²⁹	I
ám ¹³⁰ ott kívül ¹³¹ a magyarázat. ¹³²	2
Sebed ¹³³ a világ — ég, ¹³⁴ hevül ¹³⁵	3
s te ¹³⁶ lelkedet ¹³⁷ érzed, ¹³⁸ a lázat. ¹³⁹	4
Rab ¹⁴⁰ vagy, amíg ¹⁴¹ a szíved ¹⁴² lázad ¹⁴³ —	5
úgy ¹⁴⁴ szabadulsz, ¹⁴⁵ ha ¹⁴⁶ kényedül ¹⁴⁷	6
nem raksz ¹⁴⁸ magadnak ¹⁴⁹ olyan ¹⁵⁰ házat, ¹⁵¹	7
melybe ¹⁵² háziúr ¹⁵³ települ. ¹⁵⁴	8

Chiastic structure:

I-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)

```
127 literary, abbrv. íme 'here is/behold'
<sup>128</sup> vb. szenved 'to suffer' + noun-forming -és
129 'inside'
130 poetic, interj. contrad. 'but'
131 adv. 'outdoor/outside'
<sup>132</sup> vb. magyaráz 'to explain' + noun-forming -at
133 seb 'wound' + 2nd pers. sg. single poss. -ed
134 vb. 'to be on fire', 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
135 vb. 'to grow hot', 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
136 inform. sg. 'you'
<sup>137</sup> lélek 'soul' + 2nd pers. sg. single poss. -ed \rightarrow lelked + acc. -(e)t
138 vb. érez 'to feel', 2nd pers. sg. ind. pres. def.
139 láz 'fever' + acc. -(a)t
140 'captive'
<sup>141</sup> adv. 'as long as'; 'until' if followed by negated verb
142 szíved 'heart' + 2nd pers. sg. single poss. -ed
<sup>143</sup> vb. to rebel, 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
<sup>144</sup> úgy ... ha ... 'then ... if ...'
145 szabad 'free' + vb.-forming -ul + 2nd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef. -sz
<sup>147</sup> literary, vb. 'to indulge', 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
<sup>148</sup> vb. rak 'to set up/to build', 2rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef. -sz
<sup>149</sup> maga 'oneself' + 2nd pers. sg. single poss. -d + dat. -nak
150 pron. 'such/that kind of thing'
151 ház 'house' + acc. -(a)t
152 literary, arch. mely which' + illative -be 'into (the inside of)'
<sup>153</sup> ház 'house' + adj.-forming 'of the' -i + \mu r 'master'
154 vb. 'to settle (somewhere)', 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
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2.I. CONSCIOUSNESS (ESZMÉLET)

17

VII

I looked up from beneath the evening	I
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

Cursory remark

Whereas verses 1-2 echo the ancient mechanical understanding of the firmament as concentric spheres, and verses 2-4 hearken back at the mythological Fates (Parcæ), verses 5-8 evoke the image of an aerostat, whose aeronaut is J, where J's dreams are the steam that tries to lift him up, and the law is the envelope, whose tears are J's constant misfortune. (The metaphor is a little off, as balloons use hot air, not steam.)

Par dessous le soir,	I
j'ai levé les yeux aux rouages des cieux —	2
des fils scintillants de la chance	3
le métier du passé avait tissé la loi;	4
par dessous la vapeur de mes rêves,	5
j'ai regardé à nouveau dans les cieux	6
et j'ai vu le tissu de la loi	7
toujours se déchirer quelque part.	8

Én fölnéztem ¹⁵⁵ az est ¹⁵⁶ alól ¹⁵⁷	I
az eget ¹⁵⁸ fogaskerekére ¹⁵⁹ —	2
csillo ¹⁶⁰ véletlen ¹⁶¹ szálaiból ¹⁶²	3
törvényt ¹⁶³ szőtt ¹⁶⁴ a mult ¹⁶⁵ szövőszéke ¹⁶⁶	4
és megint ¹⁶⁷ fölnéztem az égre ¹⁶⁸	5
álmaim ¹⁶⁹ gőzei ¹⁷⁰ alól	6
s láttam, ¹⁷¹ a törvény szövedéke ¹⁷²	7
mindig ¹⁷³ fölfeslik ¹⁷⁴ valahol. ¹⁷⁵	8

Chiastic structure:

175 'somewhere'

```
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)
```

```
155 vb. pref. föl- 'upwards'+ vb. néz 'to look' + 1st pers. sg. past. def. -tem
156 arch. '(in the) evening'
157 al 'lower part' + abl. -l 'from'
158 ég 'sky' + acc. -(e)t
<sup>159</sup> fogas 'tooth' + kerék 'wheel': 'cogwheel' + 3rd pers. sg. single poss. -e + subl. -re 'towards'
<sup>160</sup> vb. csillog 'to glitter' + adj.-forming -o \rightarrow csillo; usually csillogo
161 'chance'
<sup>162</sup> szál 'thread' + 3rd pers. sg. poss. -a + poss. pl. -i + elative -ból 'from/out of'
<sup>163</sup> törveny 'law/principle' + acc. -t
<sup>164</sup> vb. sző 'to weave', past part.
165 múlt? rare, past part. 'past', inf. múlik
<sup>166</sup> szövő 'weaver' + szék 'chair': 'loom' + 3rd pers. sg. single poss. -e
167 meg 'again' (short action) + adv.-forming -int
<sup>168</sup> ég 'sky' + subl. sg. -re 'onto'
^{169} álom 'dream' + 1st pers. sg. poss. -a + poss. pl. -i + 1st pers. sg. pers. -m
^{170} gőz 'steam, vapour' + 3rd pers. sg. poss. -e + pl. poss. -i
<sup>171</sup> vb. lát 'to see' + short base -t, 1st pers. sg. past def. -tam
<sup>172</sup> szövedék 'fabric/cloth/web' + 3rd pers. sg. single poss. -e
<sup>173</sup> mind 'always' (repetition) + term. 'until' -ig
<sup>174</sup> vb. pref. föl- 'upwards'+ arch., poetic, vb. feslik 'to come unstitched', 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
```

2.1. CONSCIOUSNESS (ESZMÉLET)

VIII

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

Cursory remark

This is likely a memory of J's imprisonment in 1931.

French

Le silence écoutait attentivement — Une heure sonna.	I
Tu pourrais visiter ton enfance;	2
entre les murs de ciment humide	3
tu pourrais imaginer un peu de liberté —	4
me dis-je. Et dès que je fus sur pied,	5
les étoiles, la Grande Ourse	6
scintillaient en effet au-dessus,	7
comme les grilles en haut dans ma cellule.	8

19

Fülelt ¹⁷⁶ a csend ¹⁷⁷ — egyet ¹⁷⁸ ütött ¹⁷⁹	I
Fölkereshetnéd ¹⁸⁰ ifjúságod; ¹⁸¹	2
nyirkos ¹⁸² cementfalak ¹⁸³ között ¹⁸⁴	3
képzelhetsz ¹⁸⁵ egy kis sabadságot ¹⁸⁶ —	4
gondoltam. ¹⁸⁷ S hát ¹⁸⁸ amint ¹⁸⁹ fölállok ¹⁹⁰	S
a csillagok, 191 a Göncölök 192	C
úgy fénylenek ¹⁹³ fönt, ¹⁹⁴ mint a rácsok ¹⁹⁵	7
a hallgatag ¹⁹⁶ cella ¹⁹⁷ fölött. ¹⁹⁸	8

```
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)
```

```
<sup>176</sup> fül 'ear' + vb.-forming -el: 'to listen (intently)' + 3rd pers. ind. past indef. -t
   177 'silence'. alt. csönd
  ^{178} egy + acc. -t
  <sup>179</sup> vb. \ddot{u}t 'to strike' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. past indef. -(\ddot{o})tt
  180 föl- 'upwards' + keres 'to seek': 'to visit' + pot. 'may/might' -het + 2nd pers. sg. ind. pres. cond.
-ned, alt. felkeres
   <sup>181</sup> adj. ifjú 'young' + noun-forming -ság (state of being): 'youth' + 2nd pers. informal sg. poss. single
poss. -od: 'your childhood' (informal)
   182 adj. 'humid/damp'
   <sup>183</sup> cement 'cement'+ fal 'wall' + pl. -ak
  <sup>184</sup> post. 'between/amid', köz 'interval' + loc. -ött
  ^{185} kép 'image' + vb.-forming -(z)el: 'to imagine' + pot. -het + 2nd pers. sg. ind. pres. -sz
  ^{186} szabad 'free' + -ság (state of being): 'freedom' + acc. -(a)t
   vb. gondol 'to think/plan/guess/worry' + 1st pers. sg. ind. past -tam
   188 'back body', 'well...', 'then/and/but' (questioning back), 'surely'
   189 az + mint 'like': 'as soon as', literary 'as'
  190 föl-'upwards' + vb. áll 'to stand' + 1st pers. sg. ind. pres. indef. -ok, alt. felállok
   <sup>191</sup> csillag 'star' + pl. -ak
   <sup>192</sup> G\ddot{o}nc\ddot{o}l + pl. - \ddot{o}k: 'the Great Bear' (constellation)
   <sup>193</sup> fény 'light' + freq. vb.-forming -lik: 'to glitter' + 3rd pers. pl. ind. pres. indef. -ek
  194 adv. 'above/up/awake/upstairs', alt. fent
   <sup>195</sup> rács 'grid/grille' + pl. -ok
  196 vb. hallgat 'to remain silent/to listen' + adj.-forming -ag
   <sup>198</sup> föl- 'up/upwards' + loc. -ött: 'above', alt. elett
```

IX

I heard iron weeping,	I
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 should I also forge a weapon	7
out of you, golden self-awareness!	8

Cursory remark

Verses 1-2 refer to the sounds of iron being forged and quenched in water. The blacksmith is fixing a crack, which reminds J of a painful past event, possibly a break-up. Verses 3-6 form a chiasm: verse 5 echoes verse 4: to avoid his love fading away, he will keep loving; verse 6 answers verse 3: instead of hammering the crack to make it disappear, J bends under it. Then there is no need to forge a sword blade to become strong. J's self-consciousness is golden, like the glow that illuminates all the interior of the kiln.

J'ai entendu le fer sangloter,	I
j'ai entendu la pluie rire.	2
Je vis que le passé était craquelé	3
et que seuls les souvenirs peuvent s'oublier,	4
et comment je ne peux qu'aimer,	5
pliant sous mes fardeaux —	6
pourquoi devrais-je aussi forger une arme	7
de toi, for intérieur doré!	8

Hallottam ¹⁹⁹ sírní ²⁰⁰ a vasat, ²⁰¹	I
hallottam az esőt ²⁰² nevetni. ²⁰³	2
Láttam, ²⁰⁴ hogy ²⁰⁵ a mult ²⁰⁶ meghasadt ²⁰⁷	3
s csak ²⁰⁸ képzetet ²⁰⁹ lehet ²¹⁰ feledni; ²¹¹	4
s hogy ²¹² nem tudok ²¹³ mást, ²¹⁴ mint ²¹⁵ szeretni, ²¹⁶	5
görnyedve ²¹⁷ terheim ²¹⁸ alatt ²¹⁹ —	6
minek ²²⁰ is ²²¹ kell ²²² fegyvert ²²³ veretni ²²⁴	7
belőled, ²²⁵ arany ²²⁶ öntudat! ²²⁷	8

```
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)
```

```
199 vb. hall 'to hear' + 1st pers. sg. ind. past def. -ottam
200 vb. sír 'to cry/weep' + inf. -ni
vas 'iron' + acc. -(a)t
vb. es, inf. esik + pres. part. -\delta + acc. -t
<sup>203</sup> vb. nevet 'to laugh', inf. nevetni
<sup>204</sup> vb. lát 'to see' + short base -t, 1st pers. sg. past def. -tam
205 adv. 'how'
206 múlt? rare, past part. 'past', inf. múlik
<sup>207</sup> perfective meg-+ vb. hasad 'to crack/split apart' + past part. -t
208 adv. 'only'
<sup>209</sup> képzet 'idea/image/notion' + acc. -t
<sup>210</sup> pot. vb. van/lesz: 'may be/may become', 3rd pers. sg. ind.
<sup>211</sup> lit. vb. feled 'to forget', alt. felejt
212 adv. 'how'
<sup>213</sup> vb. tud 'to know'/aux. 'can + inf.' + 1st pers. sg. ind. pres. indef. -ok
<sup>214</sup> adj. más 'other/different' + acc. -t
<sup>215</sup> comp. different degrees 'than'
inf. vb. szeret 'to love'
<sup>217</sup> vb. görnyed 'to bend (under a burden)' + adv.-forming -ve
^{218} teher 'freight/burden' + 1st pers. sg. poss. mult. poss. -eim \rightarrow terheim
<sup>219</sup> post. al- 'lower part'+ loc. -(a)tt
mi + dat. -nek: 'for what'
<sup>221</sup> doublet of és 'and', adv. 'also'
<sup>222</sup> aux. vb. 'must/need to/have to + inf.'
<sup>223</sup> fegyever 'weapon' + acc. -t
<sup>224</sup> inf. vb. 'to hammer', alt. veretés
<sup>225</sup> pron. belőle 'out of him/her/it' + 2nd pers. sg. -d
<sup>226</sup> 'gold/golden'
<sup>227</sup> 'self-awareness'
```

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эт.		(1
4.1.	CONSCIOUSNESS		,

X

He is a grown man he who has	I
neither mother nor father in his heart,	2
he who knows that he receives life	3
as an extra to death, and that he returns it	4
any time, like a found object	5
— therefore he treasures it,	ϵ
he who is neither a god nor a priest,	7
neither to himself nor to others	8

23

Cursory remark

An integral man (the Hungarian language is actually gender neutral) knows that his parents cannot protect him anymore from the truth of mortality. This truth is not treasured by gods, as they are immortal, nor Christian priests, who preach eternal life.

Il est un homme accompli celui qui n'a	I
ni mère ni père en son cœur,	2
celui qui sait qu'il reçoit la vie	3
tel un supplément à la mort, et qu'il la rendra	4
à tout moment, comme un objet trouvé	5
— par conséquent il la garde précieusement,	ϵ
celui qui n'est ni un dieu ni un prêtre,	7
ni pour lui-même, ni pour autrui.	8

```
Az meglett<sup>228</sup> ember<sup>229</sup>, akinek<sup>230</sup>
                                                                                                                               Ι
szívében<sup>23I</sup> nincs se anyja,<sup>232</sup> apja,<sup>233</sup>
                                                                                                                               2
ki<sup>234</sup> tudja,<sup>235</sup> hogy<sup>236</sup> az életet<sup>237</sup>
                                                                                                                               3
halálra<sup>238</sup> ráadásul<sup>239</sup> kapja<sup>240</sup>
                                                                                                                               4
s mint<sup>241</sup> talált<sup>242</sup> tárgyat<sup>243</sup> visszaadja<sup>244</sup>
                                                                                                                               5
bármikor<sup>245</sup> — ezért<sup>246</sup> őrzi<sup>247</sup> meg,<sup>248</sup>
                                                                                                                               6
ki<sup>249</sup> nem istene<sup>250</sup> és nem papja<sup>251</sup>
                                                                                                                               7
se<sup>252</sup> magának,<sup>253</sup> sem senkinek.<sup>254</sup>
                                                                                                                               8
```

```
1-4: [k]i-[n]e[k](8)/a[p]-[j]a(9)/e-e(8)/a[p]-[j]a(9)
5-8: a[d]-[j]a(9)/i-e(8)/a[p]-[j]a(9)/[k]i-[n]e[k](8)
```

```
<sup>228</sup> obs. 'adult'
229 'person'
<sup>230</sup> pron. aki 'who' + attr. poss. -nek
<sup>23I</sup> szív 'heart' + poss. 'his' -e + innes. 'in' -ben
<sup>232</sup> anya 'mother' + 3rd pers. sg. single poss. -(j)a
<sup>233</sup> apa 'father' + 3rd pers. sg. single poss. -(j)a
<sup>234</sup> pron. rel. arch. 'he who', alt. aki
<sup>235</sup> vb. tud 'to know' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. def. -ja
<sup>236</sup> conj. 'so that'
^{237} élet 'life' + acc. -(e)t
<sup>238</sup> vb. hal 'to die' + arch. noun-forming -\acute{a}l \rightarrow 'death' + subl. 'on/for' -ra \rightarrow 'to death'
<sup>239</sup> ráadás 'addition/extra' + essive 'as/with the intention of -ul
^{240} vb. kap 'to receive' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pers. def. -ja
241 'like'
<sup>242</sup> vb. talált 'to find' + past part.
<sup>243</sup> tárgy 'object/thing/subject' + acc. -(a)t
<sup>244</sup> vb. visszaad 'to give back' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. def. -ja
<sup>245</sup> b\acute{a}r 'any' + adv. mikor 'when' \rightarrow 'any time'
<sup>246</sup> conj. 'therefore'
vb. "oriz" to guard' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. def. -i
<sup>248</sup> arch. emph.
249 'he who'
<sup>250</sup> isten 'god' + 3rd pers. sg. sing. poss. -e
<sup>251</sup> pap 'priest' + 3rd pers. sg. sing. poss. -(j)a
<sup>252</sup> alt. sem, sem ..., sem ... 'neither ... nor ...'
<sup>253</sup> pron. refl. 3rd pers. 'himself'
<sup>254</sup> pron. senki 'no one/nobody'
```

2.1. CONSCIOUSNESS (ESZMÉLET)

25

XI

I saw happiness; it was soft, bright	I
and one and half a quintal.	2
On the coarse grass of the farmyard	3
its curly smile swayed.	4
It plopped into the squishy, tepid puddle,	5
squinted, further grunted once at me —	6
To this day I see how hesitantly	7
the sunlight toyed with its bristles.	8

Cursory remark

While this seems a rather descriptive poem, the first and last two verses are subjective. Also the last verse echoes the first, in the fashion of a chiasm: verse I is about seeing happiness, and the last features light and playfulness: the Hungarian uses *fény* for 'light', but it could figuratively also mean 'joy', hence my translation: 'the sunlight toyed'.

J'ai vu le bonheur; il était doux, brillant	I
et un quintal et demi.	2
Sur la mauvaise herbe de la cour de ferme	3
son sourire courbé se balançait.	4
Il se laissa tomber dans la marre tiède et spongieuse,	5
plissa ses yeux, puis me grogna une fois —	6
Jusqu'à ce jour, je vois avec quelle hésitation	7
la lumière du jour jouait avec ses poils.	8
, , , <u>+</u>	

```
Láttam<sup>255</sup> a boldogságot<sup>256</sup> én,<sup>257</sup> 1
lágy<sup>258</sup> volt,<sup>259</sup> szőke<sup>260</sup> és másfél<sup>261</sup> mázsa.<sup>262</sup> 2
Az udvar<sup>263</sup> szigorú<sup>264</sup> gyöpén<sup>265</sup> 3
imbolygott<sup>266</sup> göndör<sup>267</sup> mosolygása.<sup>268</sup> 4
Ledőlt<sup>269</sup> a puha,<sup>270</sup> langy<sup>271</sup> tócsába,<sup>272</sup> 5
hunyorgott,<sup>273</sup> röffent<sup>274</sup> még<sup>275</sup> felém<sup>276</sup> — 6
ma<sup>277</sup> is<sup>278</sup> látom,<sup>279</sup> mily<sup>280</sup> tétovázva<sup>281</sup> 7
babrált<sup>282</sup> pihéi<sup>283</sup> közt<sup>284</sup> a fény.<sup>285</sup> 8
```

```
1-4: 0-é(8)/á-a(9)/ö-é(8)/á-a(9)
5-8: á-a(9)/e-é(8)/á-a(9)/a-é(8)
```

```
<sup>255</sup> vb. lát 'to see' + short base -t, 1st pers. sg. past def. -tam
<sup>256</sup> adj. boldog 'happy' + noun-forming -ság (state of being) + acc. -(o)t
257 pron. 'I'
258 adj. 'soft'
<sup>259</sup> vb. van 'to be'+ 3rd pers. sg. ind. past indef.
<sup>260</sup> adj. sző 'blonde' + dim. -ke
^{261} más 'other/different' + fél 'half' 
ightarrow 'one and a half'
262 'quintal'
263 'yard'
<sup>264</sup> adj. 'severe/strict'
<sup>265</sup> gyep 'lawn/grass' + super. -én
<sup>266</sup> vb. imbolyog 'to sway'+ 3rd pers. sg. single poss. -e
<sup>267</sup> adj. 'curly'
<sup>268</sup> mosolygása 'smile' + 3rd pers. sg. single poss. -e
<sup>269</sup> vb. ledoől 'to fall down' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. past indef. -t
270 'soft/squishy'
<sup>271</sup> arch. poetic langyos 'tepid'
<sup>272</sup> tócsa 'puddle' + illative -ba 'into'
<sup>273</sup> vb hunyorg 'to squint' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. past. indef. -rgott
<sup>274</sup> röffen 'to grunt once (of a pig)'
<sup>275</sup> adv. 'still/moreover'
<sup>276</sup> post. felé 'to/towards' + 1st pers. sg. poss -m \rightarrow pron. 'towards me'
<sup>277</sup> adv. 'today'
<sup>278</sup> doublet of és 'and', adv. 'also'
<sup>279</sup> vb. lát 'to see'+ 1st pers. sg. ind. pres. def.
<sup>280</sup> poetic 'how ...(!)'
vb. tétova 'to hesitate' (inf. tétovazik) \rightarrow adv. part. 'doing smth hesitantly'
282 vb. babrál 'to fiddle'
<sup>283</sup> pihe 'down, fluff' + adj.-forming -i
<sup>284</sup> post. 'between/amid' from között: köz 'interval' + loc. -ött
<sup>285</sup> 'light/glitter', fig. 'happiness/joy'
```

2.I.	CONSCIOUSNESS (ESZMÉLET)

XII

I live by a railroad. Many a train	I
comes and goes, and I watch from afar	2
how the bright windows fly by	3
in the waving, fluffy darkness.	4
So the lit-up days rush	5
into the eternal night,	e
and I stand in the light from the compartments,	7
I rest on my elbow and remain silent.	8

27

Je vis près du chemin de fer. Nombreux sont les trains	I
qui viennent et vont, et j'observe de loin	2
comment les fenêtres illuminées défilent	3
dans l'obscurité ouatée qui fait signe.	4
Ainsi les jours éclairés se pressent	5
dans la nuit éternelle,	6
et je me tiens dans la lumière des compartiments,	7
je m'accoude et garde le silence.	8

Vasútnál ²⁸⁶ lakom. ²⁸⁷ Erre ²⁸⁸ sok ²⁸⁹	I
vonat ²⁹⁰ jön ²⁹¹ -megy ²⁹² és el ²⁹³ -elnézem, ²⁹⁴	2
hogy ²⁹⁵ szállnak ²⁹⁶ fényes ²⁹⁷ ablakok ²⁹⁸	3
a lengedező ²⁹⁹ szösz ³⁰⁰ -sötétben. ³⁰¹	4
Így ³⁰² iramlanak ³⁰³ örök ³⁰⁴ éjben ³⁰⁵	5
kivilágított ³⁰⁶ nappalok ³⁰⁷	6
s én³08 állok³09 minden³10 fülke³11-fényben,³12	7
én könyöklök ³¹³ és hallgatok. ³¹⁴	8

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

```
5-8: é-e(9)/a-o(8)/é-e(9)/o(8)
  <sup>286</sup> vas 'iron' + ut 'way/road' + adess. -nal 'at/by'
  <sup>287</sup> vb. lak 'to dwell', inf. lakik, 1st pers. sg. ind. pres. -(o)m
  <sup>288</sup> pron. ez 'this/it' + subl. sg. -re 'onto/to'
  289 'much/many'
  <sup>290</sup> vb. von 'to pull/to draw' + noun-forming -at \rightarrow 'train'
  <sup>291</sup> vb. 'to come' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
  <sup>292</sup> vb. 'to go/travel/pass by (of time)' + 3rd pers. sg. ind. pres. indef.
  <sup>293</sup> adv./conj. 'afar/far away'
  <sup>294</sup> vb. pref. el 'continuity over a long time' + vb. nez 'to look at'
  <sup>295</sup> short. bogyan? 'how'
  <sup>296</sup> vb. száll 'to fly/land/to come down' + 3rd pers. pl. ind. pres. indef.
  <sup>297</sup> fény 'light/glitter' + adj.-forming -es → 'bright'
  <sup>298</sup> ablak 'window' + pl. -(o)k
  <sup>299</sup> vb. leng 'to swing/sway/wave' + freq. vb.-forming -edezik (unrounded front-vowel) + pres. part. -ő
\rightarrow 'waving'
  300 'harl/fluff'
   301 adj./subst. sötét 'dark[ness]' + iness. sg. -ben 'in'
  302 'just so'
  <sup>303</sup> ir 'movement' + rare instr. vb.-forming -amlik (inf.) \rightarrow 'to rush/hurry' + 3rd pers. pl. ind. pres.
indef. -(a)nak
  304 'perpetual/eternal'
   <sup>305</sup> poetic éj 'night' + innes. 'in' -ben
  <sup>306</sup> vb. pref. ki 'outwardly' + vil\acute{a}g 'light (arch.)/world' \rightarrow arch. 'illumination' + caus. vb.-forming -it
'to make smth ...-like \rightarrow 'to illuminate' + past part. -ott
  <sup>307</sup> nap 'day' + instr. -val 'with' \rightarrow nappal + pl. -(o)k
  308 pron. 'I'
  <sup>309</sup> vb. áll 'to stand' + 1st pers. sg. ind. pres. indef. -ok
   310 det. 'every'
   ^{3\Pi} fül 'semi-circular obj./shape' + dim. -ke \rightarrow 'compartment'
   <sup>312</sup> fény 'light/glitter' + innes. -ben 'in'
   <sup>313</sup> könyök 'elbow' + vb.-forming -\ddot{o}l \rightarrow 'to rest on one's elbow' + 1st pers. sg. ind. pers. -\ddot{o}k
   314 vb. hallgat 'to remain silent/to listen' + 1st pers. sg. ind. pres. indef. -ok
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