Search For A Common Language

Crumbley, Paul, Graulich, Melody

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Tomasino

Who was a good man in some village where I lived, sometime, who knew the secret names of the hills, the valleys.

When he spoke of earth, it lighted like the yes that he carried always in his eyes, his hands outstretched in welcome. A poor man. Tomasino, who lived a frugal life on his farm but his arms were strong, his face even today, long after, is the flare of a match struck to light a lantern, or the race of brown water down a furrow when the irrigation gate is first opened among the spring flowers.

So do I remember him, standing in a field saying “it will rain soon, the tomatoes will grow and the winter will be late this year, the birds will sing songs and not eat tomatoes.” Most of it didn’t happen but such was the faith of Tomasino that I can see his eyes now.