

Marie Isabel Matthews-Schlinzig

Encountering Edina—Palingenesis

a stranger

I arrive, yet every stone in every pavement hugs my steps—like long-lost lovers who forgot their deep affection for you, lady—forged of fire, rock, incessant rain—cradling the living and the dead with equal passion—I lie down, a river at your feet, and flow—salty ripples merge into my skin suffused with furrowed soil and bark of pine—in time I rise, a haar lighter than sparrow’s feather, drift through your gates and alleyways, lift bridges, breathing it all in—conceal, transform, reveal—and settle, being who I always was

a kin

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Bio: Marie Isabel Matthews-Schlinzig is a poet and a recovering academic, who works as an editor, author, and translator. When she’s not working, she runs @schicketanz_books on Instagram and tweets as @whatisaletter. MIMS lives in Dunfermline, Fife, with her mensch, Tobi the dog, and too many books.

Favourite poem: Friedrich Hölderlin, ‘Hälfte des Lebens’ [Midlife]