Pomades, southern latitudes, vapours, caresses, The warmth of the weather (and January that opens Like an October chrysanthemum), perfumed candles, The torment of incense (water that gurgles Between nettles and hops), the tea rose in A metal container, salts Scattered, abandoned ponds, Petals in pots (acidity of Kisses), pores which dilate And purify the crime, the tranquillity of rice, the water meadow Of hot springs, bridges in bubbles, comforting soups, Strong oils, the trembling Of buttocks, fermented palm In ginger and in the earth, a breach in the fence, the tiger Sinuous, contrast of light, the hole that takes in Treacherous filings, the sponge so warm, Jellyfish in the placenta, the blurred mirror with steam Protective cotton, the illusion Of stones, the worm that devours The faded orchids, resurrection in self-analysis, The blessed tragedy, the force that surges And ennobles the hair, imperfections of The skin (and glass transparencies

Reappear), the belly's expanse, Smell of terracotta, blossoming of screams That defeat pain, kisses' clay (filth Of earth In the vulva Which opens up), the pubis decked out With bygone flowers (exquisite garden), bread So white, the softness of milk, that flower Of flour, that tremor in the midriff, that circle That closes.

Poem from the book *Neve*