The Ordinary Virtues

Moral Order in a Divided World

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IN MEMORY OF MARGIT CZERVAN ZSOHAR
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It is enough to reflect strongly and persistently on one life,
On a certain woman, for instance, as I am doing now
To perceive the greatness of those—weak—creatures
Who are able to be honest, brave in misfortune, and patient till the end.
What can I do more, Lord, than to meditate on all that
And stand before you in the attitude of an implorer
For the sake of their heroism asking: Admit us to your glory.

—Czesław Miłosz, “Meditation”