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## Homemaker

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# Homemaker

Patricia Gangas

I make my home simple—  
crisp curtains, plain earthenware,  
the smell of sweet herbs clothed in small pots fills the air.  
Day after day I embroider the hours  
into white jade, vermilion, with moments of gold.  
I peel summer fruits, put clothes out to dry,  
and marvel at my wind-blown flowers.  
Each morning my chanting chores call me from sleep  
as the fragrant coverlet, crystalline blue, drops faint to the floor.  
The wash waits, the dust on the mantle  
sits like some vanishing nobility.  
There is a silent loneliness as I pass the painted walls,  
scour the stout pans stupefied in the juice of cooked apples.  
I, who always longed for remote places,  
treks across wild continents  
bewail only the warring of ants on polished floors.  
My free spirit always wanted to fly away, but time  
cannot be re-captured and the imprisoned spirit knows only regret.  
My home is simple, free from dust,  
and at night I fold myself between quilts and sheets of longing.