

pungnyôni dârosûmnida.
Here is a bumper crop.
haemada pungnyôni dûmnida.
We have a bumper harvest every year.

ARRIVAL

ryôguôn isûmnida.
Here's my passport.
jimûn ige damnida.
These are all my luggage.

yôllamnikga?
Must I open them?

dadûramnikga?
May I close them?

josûmnikga?
Will it be all right?

pyông-yang-e mopsi ogošipôsûmnida.
I've wanted so much to be here in Pyongyang.

je souôni pullyôšûmnida.
My desire has come true.

ON THE WAY TO THE HOTEL

jibdtûri adamhamnida.
The houses are beautiful.

cham hyôndaejôgimmida.
It's quite modern.

cham unghanhamnida.
It's very magnificent.

jôgôn muôrago sôsûmnikga?
What does that say?

"mije-e gagûl dûja!"
"Let's Mutilate U.S. Imperialism!"

AT THE STUDENTS' AND CHILDREN'S PALACE

hagsaeng-dongmul!
Look here, boy (girl)!

chamûro haengbokamnida.
You are very happy.

yôrbunûn narae uangimmida.
You are all the king of the country.

šesang-e burôm ôbsûmnida.
You have no more to be desired in the world.

gongšanju-gônšôre hubidaega doesibsio.
I wish you to grow into the reserves for the Communist construction.

FAREWELL TALK

mani bogo baeuôsûmnida.
I've seen and learned a lot.

baegbôn dâtgiboda hanbôn bonûn-gôši nasûmnida.

Seeing is believing.

manûn-gôšûl nûgyôsûmnida.
I've got deep impression.

jošônûn hanaimnida.
Korea is one.

mijenûn jošôninmine chôlchônji uônsumnida.
The U.S. imperialists are the sworn enemy of the Korean people.

šegye dochôesô mije-e gagûl dôyahamnida.
We should mutilate U.S. imperialism in every part of the world.

[Consideration]

GRAMMAR QUESTIONS

By Lydia Davis, from 110 Stories, a collection of essays and poems written after September 11. 110 Stories was edited by Ulrich Baer and will be published by New York University Press next month.

Now, during the time he is dying, can I say, "This is where he lives"?

If someone asks me, "Where does he live?" should I answer, "Well, right now he is not living, he is dying"?

If someone asks me, "Where does he live?" while he is dying, can I say, "He lives in Vernon Hall"? Or should I say, "He is dying in Vernon Hall"?

When he is dead, I will be able to say, in the past tense, "He lived in Vernon Hall." I will also be able to say, "He died in Vernon Hall."

When he is dead, everything to do with him will be in the past tense. Or rather the sentence "He is dead" will be in the present tense, and also questions such as "Where are they taking him?" or "Where is he now?"

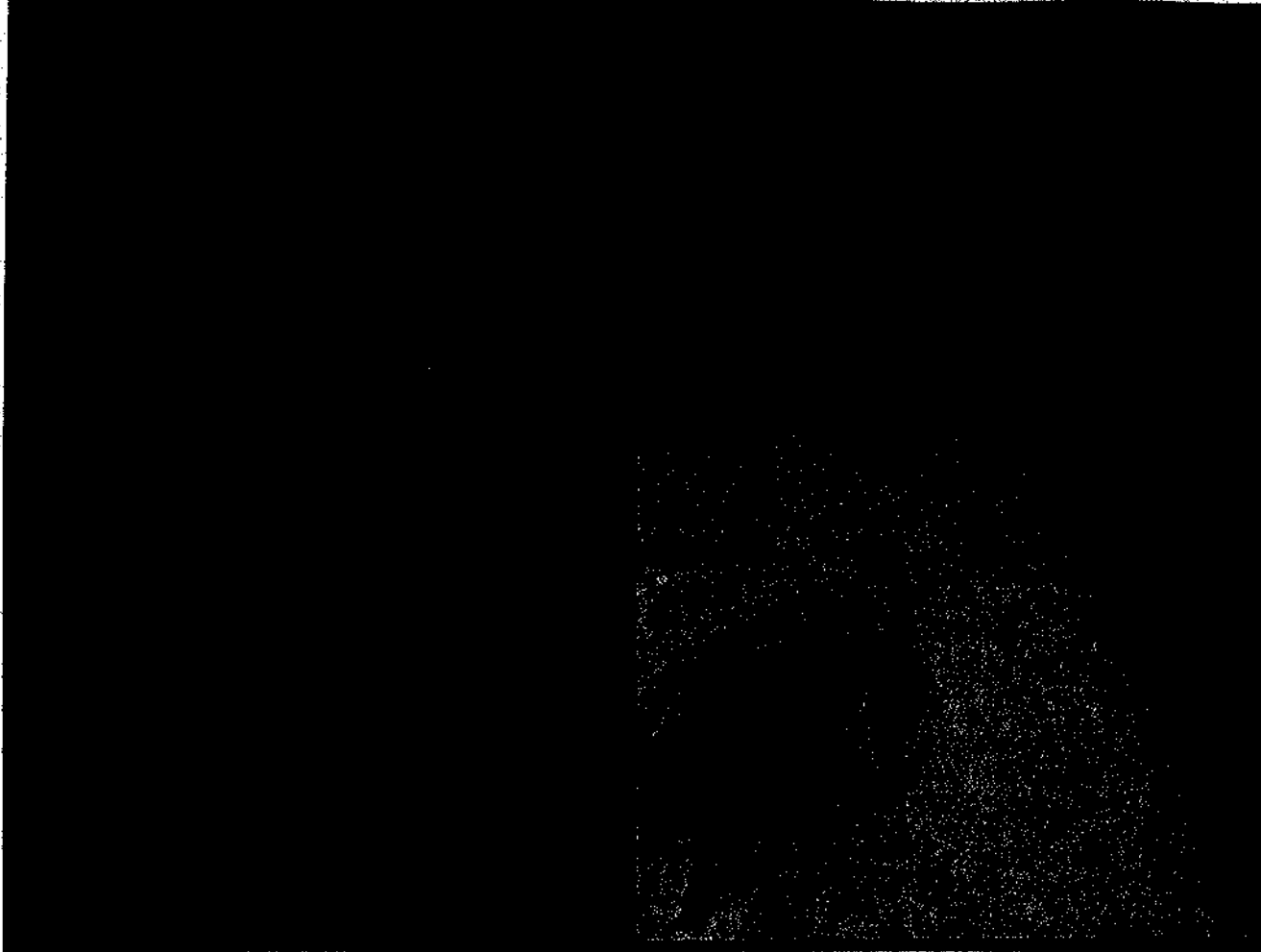
Actually, then I won't know if the words "he" and "him" are correct, in the present tense. Is he, once he is dead, still "he," and if so, for how long is he still "he"?

People may say "the body" and then call it "it." I will not be able to say "the body" in relation to him because to me he is still not something you would call "the body."

People may say "his body," but that does not seem right either. It is not "his," because he does not own it if he is no longer active or capable of anything.

I don't know if there is a "he," even though people will say "he is dead." But I see that it feels correct to say "he is dead." It may be that this is the last time he is still "he" in the present tense. But no, I will also say, "He is lying in his coffin."

I will continue to say "my father," in relation to him after he dies, but will I say it only in the



Heart Disease, by Bratsa Bonifacho, was on display this summer at Museum Matica Srpska, in Novi Sad, Serbia.

past tense, or also in the present tense? He will be put in a box, not a coffin. Then, when he is in that box, will I say, "That is my father in that box" or "That was my father, in that box," or will I say, "That, in the box, was my father"?

I will still say "my father," but maybe I will say that only as long as he looks like my father, or approximately like my father. Then, when he is in the form of ashes, will I point to the ashes and say, "That is my father"? Or will I say, "That was my father"? Then, will I say, "My father is buried there," or will I say, "My father's ashes are buried there," and if I say that, then do those ashes really belong to my father?

In the phrase "he is dying," the words "he is" suggest that he is actively doing something. But he is not very actively dying. The only thing he is still actively doing is breathing. He looks as if he is breathing on purpose, because he is working hard at it, and frowning slightly. He is working at it, but he surely has no choice. He breathes,

and he frowns. Sometimes his frown deepens for just an instant, as though something is hurting him or as though he is concentrating harder. Even though I can guess why he is frowning, he still looks as though he dislikes or disapproves of something, or is puzzled. I've seen this expression on his face hundreds and hundreds of times, or thousands, in my lifetime, though never before combined with these half-open eyes and this open mouth. To me it looks deliberate, because it was always deliberate.

"He is dying" sounds more active than "he will be dead soon." That is probably because of the word "be"—we can "be" something whether we choose to or not. Whether he likes it or not, he "will be" dead soon. He will have to be dead soon, because he is not eating.

"He is not eating" sounds a little too active, too, because it is not his choice. He is not even conscious of it. He is not conscious at all. But "is not eating" sounds more correct for him than "is dying" because of the negative. "Is not" seems correct for him, at the moment anyway, because he looks as though he is refusing something, because he is frowning.