

**David Campbell Prize:**

Winner: 'A Migrant Writer on a Bus (Thinking of Kundera)'  
Dr Danijela Kambaskovic-Sawers

**A Migrant Writer on a Bus (Thinking of Kundera)**

The body crosses over quickly,

but characters stay behind  
and roam ghosted streets.

Shuffling their feet,  
they look for shops no longer there

and squabble urgently  
in an inaudible language.

Should one make an effort  
and force stories out

or allow the body to just sit,  
invisible,

amidst its irrelevant geography  
and enjoyable clutter,

and let the imagination  
migrate at its own pace,  
a language an eon?

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The outward gaze  
compares tree shapes to remembered trees  
colours of landscape to imprinted colours

drinks from surrounding faces  
to quench old thirsts  
kindle new tastes

the invisible parallels unfurl  
to tape-measure the distance  
between us and us  
between home and home .