

TRANSNATIONAL LITERATURE

The Measurement

The measurement of one's life
Is not failure
It is not how his name is advertised
To monopolize the night

If one struggles and gets nowhere
Think of the sky that remains hollow and empty
Perhaps because it still hasn't begun charging a fee
To the passing planes

One fails, as one should
The way a cigarette does
Enjoying itself to the buttmost
And doing the right thing by binned

Ouyang Yu

Ouyang Yu. 'Measurement'.
Transnational Literature Vol. 6 no. 1, November 2013.
<http://fhrc.flinders.edu.au/transnational/home.html>