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tanaga1 (lessons from the water senior)

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Lawdenmarc Decamora

tanaga¹ (lessons from the water senior)

when the water cycle sighs
ay naku! & rain & cloud
 mist marry the heat w/ lies
 what it's like to be happy

when a lone region survives
 waste/quakes/santisimo blues
 Boracay Island is live!
 flazkaboozendancingshoes

a summer of soup & post-
 post banana in a daze
 Andy Warhol (~~who could be~~
 a Pinoy) happy birthday!

when has it become a myth
 to see the island sun slip
 past the sky's breakfast bowl on
 which 'po' and 'opo' we sip

we say these to our elders
 whose respect for family
 smells of gold and adobo
 in the air of mammary

home filled with *mahal kita*
 we say this too because love
 is tasting its tears
 under the rambutan tree

1 A *tanaga* is an indigenous Filipino poetry form consisting of a four-line stanza with heptasyllabic lines and interchanging rhyme schemes (e.g., AABB, ABAB).