

A Rapist in Your Path

LASTESIS

poem

The patriarchy is a judge
that judges us for being born
and our punishment
is the violence you don't see.

It's femicide.

Impunity for the killer.

It's disappearance.

It's rape.

And the fault wasn't mine, not where I was, not how I dressed.

The rapist is you.

It's the cops,

The judges,

The state,

The president.

The oppressive state is a rapist.

The rapist is you.

"Sleep calmly, innocent girl

Without worrying about the bandit,

Over your dreams smiling and sweet,

watches your loving cop."

The rapist is you.

Based on the words of Rita Segado, Valparaiso, Chile, 2019

(editorially shortened)