

# The Emerald Mosque on the Hill

By Raza Ali Hasan

In the lull, the afternoon sun warms  
the linseed field. The flowers are quiet,

their bright subdued in the green  
while the mind wanders

to the emerald mosque upon the hill,  
built around a flowing spring,

the easy absolutions and ablutions  
in that mosque where the spring water

has been let loose to meander  
over marble courtyards and inner chambers,

across the geometric, green-tiled floor that  
cools the heels of the faithful.

Raza Ali Hasan, "The Emerald Mosque on the Hill" from *Grieving Shias*. Copyright © 2006 by Raza Ali Hasan. Reprinted by permission of The Sheep Meadow Press.

Source: *Grieving Shias* (The Sheep Meadow Press, 2006)