

LINGERING IN HAPPINESS

After rain after any days without rain,
It stays cool, private and cleansed, under the trees,
And the dampness there, married now to gravity,
Falls branch to branch, leaf to leaf, down to the ground.

Where it will disappear – but not, of course, vanish
Except to our eyes. The roots of the oaks will have their share,
And the white threads of the grasses, and the cushion of moss;
A few drops, round as pearls, will enter the mole's tunnel;

And soon so many small stones, buried for a thousand years,
Will feel themselves being touched.

Mary Oliver