

## Translating Literary Texts

### Arabic passage:

وكانت على وشك السقوط وسط الأقدام حين سمعت كمن يحلم صوتاً ينبثق من الأرض، ويناديها باسمها. وحين رأت وجهه وراءها يتفصد بالعرق والغضب والإرهاق أحست هول الفاجعة أكثر من أي وقت مضى، واكتسحها حزن يشبه الطعنة التي ملأتها بطاقة من العزم لا حدود لها، وقررت أن تعود بأي ثمن. ولربما أحست بأنها لن تستطيع إلى الأبد النظر إلى عيني سعيد، أو تركه يلمسها. وفي أعماقها شعرت أنها على وشك أن تفقد الاثنين معاً: سعيد ووخلدون فمضت تشق طريقها بكل ما في ذراعيها من قوة وسط الغاب الذي كان يسد في وجهها طريق العودة، محاولة في الوقت نفسه أن تُضَيِّع سعيد، الذي أخذ - دون أن يعي - ينادي صفية تارة، وينادي خلدون تارة أخرى.

### English Translation of the Teacher:

She was nothing short of falling down the feet when she heard; as if she was dreaming, a voice coming out of the ground uttering her name. And when she turned around she saw his face sweating, angry and exhausted. She felt the tragedy more than ever. With much sadness that struck her, it made her invincible, for she decided to get back at any cost. She thought that maybe she will never be able to see Saïd or let him touch her. Deep inside her, she felt that she was on the brink of losing both Saïd and Khaldun, that is why she took the way through the spiky forest with her full potential trying to lose Saïd who was unconsciously calling at somtimes Safiya and at other times Khaldun.

### English Translation of Karen E. Riley:

She was on the verge of falling among the trampling feet when she heard, as though in a dream, a voice well up out of the ground, calling her name. When she saw his face behind her- dripping with sweat, rage, oppression-

she was more horrified than ever. Sorrow pierced her, swept over her, filled her with boundless determination, and she resolved to return, no matter what the price. Perhaps she felt that she would never again be able to look Said in the eye, or let him touch her. In the depths of her soul she felt she was about to lose them both--Said and Khaldun. She forged her way through, using all the strength in her arms, through the jungle blocking her return, trying at the same time to lose Said, who was alternately calling, "Safiyya! Khaldun!..."