

STIL GEBED

Lord, I do not intend to do your work today,
I have enough on my own plate, mastering
my foolish drives and impulses.

Put life into the trees, if it may please you to
do so, and common sense into the heads of
the industrialists who would cut them down.

Tell me where this kiwi and mango come from
and the meaning of the word *Chiquita*.

The best prayers are short, simple and memorable,
so I won't take up any more of your time.

O Dove of Peace, come off your branch while it's
still there, and bless the Burgomaster of Bruges.

Marcus Cumberlege