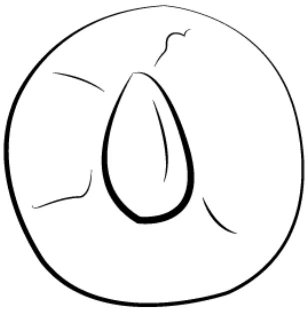
Il-Biskuttini tal-Lewż

togħma ta’ festi
ta' żmien l-għaqda
il-familja

pastini żgħar ħelwin
sempliċi fil-forma
bħal meta kont jien żgħira
fil-kċina man-nannu
nagħfġu l-għaġina

u jien indawwar il-blalen
tondi tondi
idellku xi ftit ma' idi
inpoġġijhom waħda waħda
ħdejn xulxien
qishom suldati
u nispiċċawhom bil-lewża
perfetta
forma ta’ demgħa



fil-festi
meta in-nanna
toħodni għand ħutha l-bniet
li baqu jgħixu fid-dar ta'
tfulitha
nistennew jinġabru tal-familja
u kif tgħaddi il-banda
joħorġu bil-platt mimli
pastini friski
l-itjeb li qatt doqt
u n-nanna terfagħli waħda żejda għalija

fil-festin
fuq il-mejda prinċipali
f’xi tieġ jew magħmudija
jew xi ġabra fil-Milied
iċ-ċajta kienet tkun
“dak il-basket biex inhu mimli?
b’xi biskuttina tal-lewż?”

għax komuni
li meta tfal mhux mistednin għall-festin
Il-ġenituni lura lejn id-dar
tarhom joħorgu xi biskuttina jew tnejn
mill-basket pulit pulit tal-mamà
jew mill-but tal-ġlekk ġdid tal-papà
mgeżwra f'xi karta
biex jaqsmuha mat-tfal

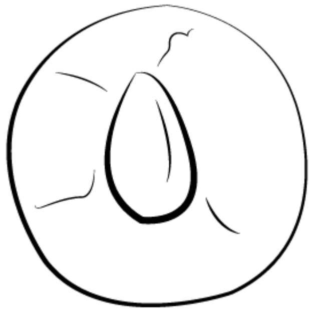
żmien sabiħ
żmien il-festi
togħma ta' ċelebrazzjoni

Enrique Tabone

Maltese Almond biscuits

a festive taste
a time to come together
family time

sweet and small
simple form
just like me when I was little
in the kitchen with grandpa
kneading the dough
making balls out of it
round and circular
a little sticky on my hands
I place them one next to the
other
like soldiers
and we finish them off
with a perfect almond nut
shaped like a tear



in the feasts
every time my grandma
took me to her sisters'
who still lived in her
childhood home
we waited for family to gather
and when the band came
out came the plates
full of fresh biscuits
the most delicious I have ever tasted
and grandma pulls an extra one aside for me

at festive gatherings
on the main table
in weddings or baptism
or some Christmas party

the joke would go
"what's in that bag?
is it filled with almond biscuits?"

because it often happens
that when children are not invited
and the parents go back home
they pull out a biscuit or two
from mamà's neat and tide handbag
or from papà's new suit pocket
wrapped in paper
to share with their children

a lovely time
a festive time
a taste of celebration

Enrique Tabone