

## Postcard

Navigators once used colors to name the cardinal points –  
the salt concentration determined the clarity of the water.

Over millions of years, variations appeared –  
floating plants found nowhere else.  
You could see them even from the surface.

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Some navigators today still sail close to shore,  
without navigation instruments.  
They retrace the old routes,  
afraid they might fall off the edge of a flat earth.

Perhaps they'll see the Lyrids far out at sea.

They'll draw a line on a nautical chart  
to mark how far they've traveled.  
After nightfall, they'll steer by the North Star.

In the same place, after a while,  
something else will be seen  
through the cabin portholes.

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On a LEGO board,  
a child builds an octagonal prism.  
He raises it with a frame and a roof.  
Beside it, a small ship imitates a naval frigate.  
From the open sea, the lighthouse beam  
shines its light on us.



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Published works: *Într-un pat, sub cearșaful alb* (Romania, 2005, 2015); *En una cama bajo la sábana blanca* (Spain, 2008); *Ținuturile sudului* (Romania, 2010); *Lemur* (Romania, 2012); *Tribar* (Romania, 2018). *Lemur* received the “Young Poet of the Year” award at the Young Writers’ Gala (2013) and was published in the U.S. by Action Books, translated by Florin Bican (2018). In 2017, poems from *Tribar* won the **Asymptote Journal** Translation Prize (translation by Anca Roncea). *Tribar* was later published by Saturnalia Books (USA, 2022, tr. Anca Roncea) and Elif Verlag (Germany, 2022, tr. Alexandru Bulucz).

She has held several literary residencies, the most recent in Graz, Austria (2024–2025, “Grazer Stadtschreiber\*in”). Her next poetry collection will be published in spring 2026 by **Nemira**, in the **Vorpal** series.