

"Hope" by Ariel Dorfman

My son has been
missing
since May 8
of last year.

They took him
just for a few hours
they said
just for some routine
questioning.

After the car left,
the car with no license plate,
we couldn't

find out

anything else
about him.

But now things have changed.

We heard from a companero
who just got out
that five months later
they were torturing him
in Villa Grimaldi,
at the end of September
they were questioning him

in the red house
that belonged to the Grimaldis.

They say they recognized
his voice his screams
they say.

Somebody tell me frankly
what times are these
what kind of world
what country?
What I'm asking is
how can it be
that a father's
joy
a mother's
joy
is knowing
that they
that they are still
torturing
their son?
Which means
that he was alive
five months later
and our greatest
hope
will be to find out
next year

that they're still torturing him
eight months later

and he may might could
still be alive.