LITERATURE PRIZE 2020

Louise Glück

Nobel Prize Lessons
The Nobel Prize in Literature

"the person who shall have produced in the field of literature the most outstanding work in an ideal direction".
Who is rewarded with the Literature Prize?

The Nobel Prize in Literature has mainly been awarded to authors who have written works of fiction – novels, short stories, poetry collections and theatrical plays.
2020 Literature Laureate

Louise Glück
Born: 1943, USA

“for her unmistakable poetic voice that with austere beauty makes individual existence universal”
2020 Literature Laureate

Glück has published twelve collections of poetry since making her debut in 1968.
The Wild Iris

In this collection of poems, flowers are given voices of their own.
I did not expect to survive, 
earth suppressing me. I didn’t expect 
to waken again, to feel 
in damp earth my body 
able to respond again, remembering 
after so long how to open again 
in the cold light 
of earliest spring –
This collection of poems is based on the myths of Antiquity and the modern woman’s life.
From the poem “October”

The light has changed;
middle C is tuned darker now.
And the songs of morning sound over-rehearsed.
—
This is the light of autumn, not the light of spring.
The light of autumn: you will not be spared
Straightforward and deep at the same time

Louise Glück engages with timeless topics such as isolation, relationships and the confrontation with death.
FOR THE GREATEST BENEFIT TO HUMANKIND