

December 17th, 2017, Louisville

**The heart leads you to the neighborhood
of the people of heart.**

The body leads you to the prison of water and earth.

Nourish your heart with the appropriate food,
find spiritual maturity in conversation with the mature.

[I, 721-726]

To us a different language has been given,

And a place besides heaven and hell.

Those whose hearts are free
have a different soul,
a pure jewel excavated from a different mine.

Quatrain 403

**Abundance is seeking the beggars and the poor,
just as beauty seeks a mirror.**

Beggars, then, are the mirrors of God's bounty,
and they that are with God are united with
Absolute Abundance.

[II, 2745, 2750]

**That which God said to the rose,
and caused it to laugh in full-blown beauty,**

He said to my heart,
and made it a hundred times more beautiful.

[III, 4129]

It was Mary's painful need that made the infant Jesus
begin to speak from the cradle.

Whatever grew has grown for the sake of those in need,

so that a seeker might find the thing he sought.
If God most High has created the heavens,

He has created them for the purpose of satisfying needs.

Wherever a pain is, that's where the cure goes;

wherever poverty is, that's where provision goes.

Wherever a difficult question is,
that's where the answer goes;
wherever a ship is, water goes to it.

Don't seek the water; increase your thirst,

so water may gush forth from above and below.
Until the tender-throated babe is born,
how should the milk for it
flow from the mother's breast?

[III, 3204; 3208-3213]

The whole of your six senses,
can be compared to a horse.
The light of God is the rider:
without the rider the horse is useless.

The light of God rides the body's eye.

The soul yearns for God.
God's light enhances the senses.
This is the meaning of *Light upon Light*.

[II, 1286, 1290-3]

No mirror ever became iron again;
no bread ever became wheat;
no ripened grape ever became sour fruit.

**Mature yourself and be secure
from a change for the worse.**

Become Light.

[II, 1317-18]

Water says to the dirty, "Come here."
The dirty one says, "I am so ashamed."
**Water says, "How will your shame
be washed away... without me?"**

[II, 1366-67]

[translations by Camille & Kabir Helminski]