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.

[1, 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,
and 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.
Whatever 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]