

Cantar del alma que se huelga de conocer a Dios por fe
[Poema: Texto completo]
San Juan de la Cruz

Que bien sé yo la fonte que mane y corre,
aunque es de noche.

1. Aquella eterna fonte está escondida,
que bien sé yo do tiene su manida,
aunque es de noche.

2. Su origen no lo sé, pues no le tiene,
mas sé que todo origen de ella tiene,
aunque es de noche.

3. Sé que no puede ser cosa tan bella,
y que cielos y tierra beben de ella,
aunque es de noche.

4. Bien sé que suelo en ella no se halla,
y que ninguno puede vadealla,
aunque es de noche.

5. Su claridad nunca es oscurecida,
y sé que toda luz de ella es venida,
aunque es de noche.

6. Sé ser tan caudalosos sus corrientes.
que infiernos, cielos riegan y las gentes,
aunque es de noche.

7. El corriente que nace de esta fuente
bien sé que es tan capaz y omnipotente,
aunque es de noche.

8. El corriente que de estas dos procede
sé que ninguna de ellas le precede,
aunque es de noche.

9. Aquesta eterna fonte está escondida
en este vivo pan por darnos vida,
aunque es de noche.

10. Aquí se está llamando a las criaturas,
y de esta agua se hartan, aunque a oscuras
porque es de noche.

11. Aquesta viva fuente que deseo,
en este pan de vida yo la veo,
aunque [es] de noche.

This translation seeks to convey the meaning of St. John of the Cross' poem without seeking to reproduce the cadence, rhythm, etc.

“Song of the soul who is content in knowing God through faith”

I well know the fount that flows and runs,
although it is night.

1. That eternal fount is hidden,
that I well know where it has its abode,
although it is night.

2. Its origin I know not, for it has not,
but I do know that everything has its origin in her,
although it is night.

3. I know that nothing so beautiful can be,
and that heavens and earth drink of her,
although it is night.

4. I well know that there is no ground found in her,
and that no one can go there,
although it is night.

5. Her clarity is never darkened,
and I know that all light comes from her,
although it is night.

6. I know her currents are so abundant
that they water hells, heavens and the peoples,
although it is night.

7. The current that is born out of this fount
I well know is so able and omnipotent,
although it is night.

8. The current that proceeds from these two
I know that neither of them precedes it,
although it is night.

9. This eternal fount is hidden
in this living bread to give us life,
although it is night.

10. Here there is a call to creatures,
and from this water they satiate themselves, although in darkness,
since it is night.

11. This living fount which I desire,
in this bread of life I see it,
although by night. [some read “although it is night”]

