

# Current 93, The Cloud Of Unknowing

And then when then I die  
I feel I shall say  
I have not understood  
I have not understood any of this  
My eyes are still coal dark  
I have not understood  
Around and in my eyes the tiny flecks  
Of swirling crippled confused lights  
And to my heart I will whisper  
Softly quietly  
"There is no death there is no death"  
(And goodbye to you all)

Under the gorgon grinnd arches  
Of London's great vaults  
I have not understood  
Under the sunpuckered roofs of Kathmandu  
I have not understood  
Along the soulstoned streets  
Of Lower  
And of Higher Germanie  
I have not understood  
Leipzig: blackeyed pain and loss: she  
I have not understood  
In Clare near I  
The empty lakes are open in the distance  
And too close is the faminereatchingroad  
All these are ghosts  
There I have not understood  
(In the Heart of the Wood  
Oh there have I understood)  
I rested at the temple of Great Black Time - Her  
And did not understand  
Though animalbled fleshmarbled rivers ran in Her honour  
His buckled body in blood  
Returns to the prebirth poise  
Spreadeagled like starfish -  
There in His eyes:  
Incomprehension mute pain disbelief what  
Blood there meant sorrow trickles there  
This I could not understand  
I bend the pages of yet another book  
And in its lines Great Black Lines  
I have not understood  
Please gramerey pray for me  
And oh goodbye sweetestheart  
The wind roars in the nearness  
And there in my heart  
And all the clouds are spiralling towards us  
Descent indeed to the centre of it all  
Skipping lightly and lying truly  
This we shall understand  
I hope...

Wet bent humped trees  
The great ones - there  
On the lapped shore  
Dai Ichi  
There also I do not know  
This is all unknowable  
And as the dust covers  
My empty eyes  
You shall read in these foolish gapes  
Oh that I have not understood

(But if you look for the stag and the cross conjoined  
There on my arm look there  
There I have understood very well)

Now you are all fading  
All fading  
As my age creeps on  
As This Age stumbles on  
Fires in the earth  
Fires in the sky  
Fires in our hearts  
Fires everywhere  
The black eyes  
Already blacken  
And this I have not understood

Not peace  
But a sword  
This and He  
Unfortunately  
I have understood  
Under the bowered greenwood tree  
When first I lay  
Bright starre with Thee  
Under the velvet branches dear  
When sun and moon both came so near  
Under the starlit open dome  
Under the starsharp pointed lights  
Under the starloved greeny earth  
When first I wanted to hold You  
And all the world halfdead and halflive  
Spat into my mouth  
Blueseas bitterwater  
And I am almost dead  
And I have not understood

Under the rain and teeth of gods  
Under the pain and sleeping liddy eyes  
Under the brokkd wetful heaven  
If you are there  
If you are there  
If you are there  
Then I am singing with my eyes  
If you are there