

# *Kahil gibran death*

***T**HEN Almitra spoke, saying, We would ask now of Death.*

*And he said:*

*You would know the secret of death.*

*But how shall you find it unless you seek  
it in the heart of life?*

*The owl whose night-bound eyes are  
blind unto the day cannot unveil the mystery  
of light.*

*If you would indeed behold the spirit of  
death, open your heart wide unto the body  
of life.*

*For life and death are one, even as the  
river and the sea are one.  
In the depth of your hopes and desires  
lies your silent knowledge of the beyond;*

*And like seeds dreaming beneath the snow  
your heart dreams of spring.*

*Trust the dreams, for in them is hidden  
the gate to eternity.*

*Your fear of death is but the trembling  
of the shepherd when he stands before the  
king whose hand is to be laid upon him in  
honour.*

*Is the sheered not joyful beneath his  
trembling, that he shall wear the mark of  
the king?*

*Yet is he not more mindful of his trem-  
bling?*

*For what is it to die but to stand naked  
in the wind and to melt into the sun?*

*And what is to cease breathing, but to  
free the breath from its restless tides, that  
it may rise and expand and seek God unen-  
cumbered?*

*Only when you drink from the river of  
silence shall you indeed sing.*

*And when you have reached the moun-  
tain top, then you shall begin to climb.*

*And when the earth shall claim your  
limbs, then shall you truly dance.*