

Les nuits d'été (Summer Nights), H. 81
Poems by Théophile Gautier (1811-1872)

4. Absence (H. 85)

Refrain:

Reviens, reviens, ma bien-aimée!
Comme une fleur loin du soleil
La fleur de ma vie est fermée
Loin de ton sourire vermeil.

1. Entre nos cœurs quelle distance!
Tant d'espace entre nos baisers!
Ô sort amer! Ô dure absence!
Ô grands désirs inapaisés!

Refrain: Reviens, reviens,
ma bien-aimée, etc.

2. D'ici là-bas, que de campagnes,
Que de villes et de hameaux,
Que de vallons et de montagnes,
À lasser les pieds des chevaux!

Refrain: Reviens, reviens,
ma bien-aimée, etc.

4. Separation

Refrain:

Come back, come back, my beloved!
Like a flower away from the sun
the flower of my life is closed up
away from your warm smile.

1. What distance lies between our hearts!
so great a gulf between our kisses!
Oh bitter fate, oh cruel absence!
Oh mighty desires unsatisfied!

Refrain: Come back, come back
my beloved! etc.

2. From here to there what plains lie between,
what towns and villages,
what valleys and hills,
to tire horses' hooves !

Refrain: Come back, come back
my beloved! etc.

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