

Little Gidding (From Four Quartets)

We shall not cease from exploration And the end of all our exploring Will be to arrive where we started And know the place for the first time.

Through the unknown, unremembered gate When the last of earth left to discover

Is that which was the beginning; At the source of the longest river The voice of the hidden waterfall And the children in the apple-tree Not known, because not looked for

But heard, half-heard, in the stillness

Between two waves of the sea. Quick now, here, now, always

A condition of complete simplicity

(Costing not less than everything)

And all shall be well and

All manner of thing shall be well When the tongues of flame are in-folded

Into the crowned kr

Into the crowned knot of fire

And the fire and the rose are one.

