

*CANTICO DELLA CREATURE/SONG OF THE CREATURES —San Francesco/St. Francis*

*version by Jay Ramsay*

Greatest, strongest, loveliest Lord  
All praise to you, all honour and glory  
And the one blessing above all.

They are yours, Highest One, and only yours  
No one is worthy to claim Your Name.

Praise to you, my Lord  
With all your created ones  
And especially for Master Brother Sun  
Who is the day he lights up for us !  
Beautiful, radiant, shimmering, splendid  
Like you, Highest One, gesturing your meaning...

Praise to you, my Lord  
For Sister Moon and the stars  
Made in heaven translucent as jewels...

Praise to you My Lord for Brother Wind  
For the air and the clouds, the calm and all weathers  
You sustain Your Creation through

Praise to you my Lord for Sister Water  
Who is so flexible and lowly  
Precious and white-pure

Praise to you my Lord for Brother Fire  
Burning in the heart of the night  
Lovely and laughing, wild and strong

Praise to you my Lord  
For our Sister Mother Earth  
Who feeds and rules us all  
Birthing all fruits  
And the spectrum of flowers and herbs

Praise to you my Lord  
For all who forgive because they love you  
Suffering illness and every difficulty—  
Blessed are those who live in peace  
For they shall be honoured with you...

Praise to you my Lord  
For our Sister Physical Death  
No living being can escape from;  
Grief to those who die lost, missing the mark—  
But blessing to all of us who are found

Living in the sanctuary of Your Will:  
This second death can't harm us.

Oh praise and bless my Lord  
Thank him, serve him from the deepest ground of all.

*Sept 1994, Campello Alto, Umbria, Sept 2011, Uplands, Stroud*