

***Boundary vs. Bondage:  
A Hymn to Transcendence***

I sing of  
the foundational eros  
by which nothingness  
is attracted to fullness,  
creation to the Creator,  
the human universe  
to the divine *milieu*.

We exist to transcend  
our existence:  
faith takes us  
beyond cognition;  
hope aspires  
to a better condition;  
charity is a drive  
to fuller fruition

The limited beckons us  
to the boundless;  
the contingent postulates  
the necessary;  
the partial gives a glimpse  
of the All.

Bewail not, then,  
the condition  
of creatureliness:  
the shore does not complain  
of the sea  
that bounds it,  
nor does the mountain  
envy the sky  
that surrounds it.

Extol, therefore,  
the virtues of  
limitation;  
for, it is the humble  
who achieve greatness,  
the last who are first,  
and the empty  
who are most fulfilled.

A limit is not a  
lasso roping us in,  
but a tether leading us out.  
An edge is not a  
fence confining us inside,  
but an invitation luring us beyond.

Our limit is  
not a boundary,  
but a connection:  
we cannot exist  
of ourselves  
and for ourselves;  
without being  
interrelated  
we perish.

The intricate web of  
coexistence and collaboration  
is not a net  
hampering our mobility,  
but a sluice  
fostering our agility.

For,  
if there is nothing  
beyond our mortal ken,  
there is no room  
for flight or fancy  
and no purpose  
to our dreaming  
and striving.

In short,  
as in every  
authentic conversation,  
we have to end  
before Someone  
can begin.

© *Msgr. Walter Niebrzydowski*  
June 3, 2003  
[Fr-Walter@nyc.rr.com](mailto:Fr-Walter@nyc.rr.com)  
[www.fatherwaltersparish.org](http://www.fatherwaltersparish.org)