

20 October 2018

From
THE BOOK OF QUESTIONS –
by Pablo Neruda

XVI

Do salt and sugar work
to build a white tower?

Is it true that in an anthill
dreams are a duty?

Do you know what the earth
meditates upon in Autumn?

(Why not give a medal
to the first golden leaf?)

XLVII

In the middle of Autumn
do you hear yellow explosions?

By what reason or injustice
does the rain weep its joy?

Which birds lead the way
when the flock takes flight?

From what does the hummingbird hang
its dazzling symmetry?

LXXIII

Who works harder on earth
a human or the grain's sun?

Between the fir tree and the poppy
whom does the earth love more?

Between the orchids and the wheat
which does it favor?

Why a flower with such opulence
and wheat with its dirty gold?

Does autumn enter legally
or is it an underground season?