

POSITIVE LOVE

(a response to John Donne)

I cannot keep a love so thin,
Secret, and high heart bidden
As that unwitting lover feels,
Who relents to puzzling wheels
of nothing. No, I would win
Admission now to love's real
Truth, for I am that very one
Who dares, and would alone
Set open eyes upon the sun.

If that be tawdry, low, and plain,
Which by thoughts one can explain,
Or by preying touches know,
Then touch! My love is so.
Bald love I won't disdain
As being something far below
A nothing. In truth I can
Kiss more and better than
Any air or any man.

Eugenio Benitez