



Mercedes Sosa

Gracias a la Vida- Thank you to life

Thank you to life, which has given me so much.
It gave me two beams of light, that when opened,
 Allow me distinguish black from white
And in the sky above, her starry backdrop,
 And from within the multitude
 The man that I love.

Thank you to life, which has given me so much.
It gave me an ear that, in all of its width
Records— night and day—crickets and canaries,
Hammers, turbines, bricks and storms,
And the tender voice of my beloved.

Thank you to life, which has given me so much.
It gave me sound and the alphabet.
With them the words that I think and declare:
“Mother,” “Friend,” “Brother” and the light shining.
The route of the soul of the one I’m loving.

Thank you to life, which has given me so much.
It gave me the steps of my tired feet.
With them I have traversed cities and puddles
Valleys and deserts, mountains and plains.
And your house, your street and your patio.

Thank you to life, which has given me so much.
It gave me a heart, that shakes its frame,
When I see the fruit of the human brain,
When I see good so far from bad,
When I look into the depth of your light eyes...

Thank you to life, which has given me so much.
It gave me laughter and it gave me tears.
With them I distinguish happiness from pain—
The two materials that make up my song,
And your song, as well, which is the same song.
And everyone’s song, which is my own song.