



Après un rêve



Gabriel Fauré (1845 – 1924) | Romain Bussine (1830 – 1899)

In *Après un rêve* (originally published in 1878), op.7 n1, a dream of romantic elopement with a lover, away from darkness, and towards an awakening light is described. However, the dreamer longs to return to the "mysterious night". The text of the poem is an anonymous Italian poem freely adapted into French by Romain Bussine.

Dans un sommeil que charmait ton image

In a sleep that charms your image,

Je rêvais le bonheur, ardent mirage,

I was dreaming of happiness, the ardent mirage.

Tes yeux étaient plus doux, ta voix pure et sonore,

Your eyes were softer, your voice pure and sound,

Tu rayonnais comme un ciel éclairé par l'aurore;

You were shining like a sky lit up by dawn;

Tu m'appelais et je quittais la terre

You called me and I left the earth

Pour m'enfuir avec toi vers la lumière,

To flee with you towards the light.

Les cieux pour nous entr'ouvraient leurs nues,

The heavens for us, parted and exposed,

Splendeurs inconnues, lueurs divines entrevues,

Unknown splendors, divine glimpses of light,

English Translation

*Lost in sleep that charms your body,
I was dreaming of happiness, an unreachable mirage.
Your eyes were softer, your voice pure and sound, And
you were shining like a sky illuminated by dawn.*

*You called to me and I raised from the ground
To flee with you towards and eternal light. The
heavens parted, naked and exposed, Unknown
splendors—divine glimpses of light.*

*Alas! Alas! A saw awakening from the dreams. I
call to you, o night, return me to your lies. Return
to me your radiance, mysterious night!*



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Hélas! Hélas! triste réveil des songes

Alas! Alas! A sad awakening from the dreams.

Je t'appelle, ô nuit, rends moi tes mensonges,

I call to you, o night, return to me your lies,

Reviens, reviens radieuse,

Come back, come back radiant,

Reviens ô nuit mystérieuse!

Come back, o mysterious night!