

village people, when the night has come, and the honest prayer of the peasant singing to the Virgin, ascends to the spheres, when in the heaven raises the placid moon, when the breezes become milder, and all around the universe is silent, adoring the Creator, when, on the branches the feathered birds tranquilly hide their harmonious throats in their winged arms. and in the sky the most distant worlds reappear, amidst the light vapors of the churchyard, a flame towers alone and trembling for a while, finally rests and waits.

Not long after, a sad and harmonious song is heard, and in the meanwhile one can see a like flame coming toward the first, and both mingled in one embrace, sweetly disappear, like twins, destined to the same fate, who felt intense joy in meeting each other.

The firm belief of the people is that the apparition is the souls of the two unhappy ones who prematurely died in such great grief, and, on account of this, the believer pained for so great a misfortune, bows, and weeping, says
AVE MARIA.

C. A. Morpurgo.

