

Deep inside me

**There are things deep in me
No one will ever know,
Not even I.**

**No amount of pain, no
Distress however intense,
No degree of vulnerability,
Or, better still, no success, fame
Self confidence or vanity
Would unlock the gate
To get past
with the secretes,
In me that beget,
come in contact.**

**They are mine and mine alone,
No one would reach them
However I become forlorn,
Or the reverse: gladsome I become.**

**I draw energy and wisdom
From them when I undertake
An extraordinary duty
Beyond my feeble capacity.
And in the process if I get stumbled,
And the mission gets fozzled or bungled,
It is again due to their presence,
In my heart of hearts lying in silence.
They are my strengths and weaknesses
They define my essence.**

**I am what I am,
Because these things found in me have a claim.**

**© Haileselassie Girmay
10/5/98**