

Fernando Pessoa

## **I have wished so oft this mockery might end**

I have wished so oft this mockery might end  
Of love between us! And it's ended now.  
Yet I cannot even to myself pretend  
That the wished thing achieved gives joy enow.

Every going is a parting too.  
Our happiest day doth make us one day older.  
To get stars we must have darkness also,  
The fresher hour is likewise the colder.

I dare not hesitate not to accept  
Thy separating letter, yet I wish  
With some vague jealousy I scarce reject  
That things were fitted for a different stretch.

Farewell! Yet do I smile at this or not?  
My feeling now is lost in thought.

28-11-1920

**Pessoa Inédito.** Fernando Pessoa. (Orientação, coordenação e prefácio de Teresa Rita Lopes).  
Lisboa: Livros Horizonte, 1993: 13.