

Alexander Search

THE LIP

THE LIP

One day in half-slumbrous raving
Where I saw strange fancies skip,
I saw in a dream, by no light's gleam,
A man with only one lip —
Absolutely, absolutely, absolutely,
Absolutely with only one lip.

I remember well that he had no face
Nor a nose with a usual tip;
He had nor eyes, nor cheks, nor hair
But only, only *one* lip —
Only one, only one, only one,
Only one, one, *one* lip.

Can ye think of it without terror?
No other lip did slip
Into the vision, nor was it a lack:
There was only, only *one* lip.
Could you see him as I you would grow mad.
That man with *only one* lip.

2-1-1908

Poesia Inglesa. Fernando Pessoa. (Organização e tradução de Luísa Freire. Prefácio de Teresa Rita Lopes.) Lisboa: Livros Horizonte, 1995: 148.

1ª publ. in **Fernando Pessoa: o Amor, a Morte, a Iniciação.** Yvette K. Centeno. Lisboa: Regra do Jogo, 1985.