

Song of Maria Clara

By: DR. JOSE RIZAL



Sweet are the hours in one's own Native Land,
All there is friendly o'er which the sun shines above;
Vivifying is the breeze that wafts over her fields;
Even death is gratifying and more tender is love.

Ardent kissed on a mother's lips are at play,
On her lap, upon the infant child's awakening,
The extended arms do seek her neck to entwine,
And the eyes at each other's glimpse are smiling.

It is sweet to die in one's own Native Land,
All there is friendly o'er which the sun shines above;
And deathly is the breeze for one without
A country, without a mother and without love.



EXPLANATION

I love this poem because it celebrates the beauty of one's native land and the comfort of maternal love. Rizal's vivid imagery and tender language evoke a sense of nostalgia and longing, reminding us of the importance of roots and connection.

The poem's themes of love, identity and belonging resonate deeply making it a timeless and universal work of art. Rizal's use of sensory details and tender language creates a sense of comfort and peace.

The poem is a tribute to mothers and a reflection of our own sense of self and place in the world.