

1818

O THOU WHOSE FACE HATH FELT THE WINTER'S  
WIND

John Keats

**Keats, John (1795-1821) - Widely regarded as the most talented of the English romantic poets, Keats, whose work was poorly received during his lifetime, could not have foreseen his later recognition. Ironically, he wrote for his own epitaph: "Here lies one whose name was writ in water." O thou whose face hath felt the Winter's wind (1818) - Keats delivers a thrush's morning message. Opening lines: O thou whose face hath felt the Winter's wind, / Whose eye has seen the snow-clouds hung in mist ...**

**THE WINTERS WIND**

O thou whose face hath felt the Winter's wind,  
Whose eye has seen the snow-clouds hung in mist  
And the black elm tops 'mong the freezing stars,  
To thee the spring will be a harvest-time.  
O thou, whose only book has been the light  
Of supreme darkness which thou feddest on  
Night after night when Phoebus was away,  
To thee the Spring shall be a triple morn.  
O fret not after knowledge- I have none,  
And yet my song comes native with the warmth.  
O fret not after knowledge- I have none,  
And yet the Evening listens. He who saddens  
At thought of idleness cannot be idle,  
And he's awake who thinks himself asleep.

**THE END**