

## Biography of poet

<https://citylights.com/our-story/lawrence-ferlinghetti/>

## Original language lyric of the poem

### GROTTAMARE

Turquoise sea off Grottamare  
Grottamare with its sea caves  
echoing  
along the Adriatic  
Echo of siren song  
still reaches me  
inside the silent train  
once more the lost voices calling  
undersea  
Ah, but naturally  
all is illusion  
The fog still lies heavily  
in the olive trees  
Dawn is made by the clock  
and not by light  
which only exists in our minds  
Men and women sleep  
in their usual darkness  
Only the light  
asleep in their eyes  
gives any hint  
of an iridescent future  
of an incandescent destiny  
Only far off  
beyond the far islands  
the sea sends back  
its turquoise answer.

*First time appeared in Michele Rossi's GROTTAMMARE terra poetica - 1991*