

## 22

O cool is the valley now  
And there, love, will we go  
For many a choir is singing now  
Where Love did sometime go.  
And hear you not the thrushes calling,  
Calling us away?  
O cool and pleasant is the valley  
And there, love, will we stay.

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### Notes

This was No. 16 in the 1907 edition.

The Lover bids his Beloved to leave the mirror and return to the scene of their courtship.

Is love beginning to 'cool'?

The wrens of No. 20 give way here to thrushes. Tindall notes that Glenasmole in the Dublin mountains translates as 'Glen of the Thrushes' and was one of the reputed hunting grounds of the legendary Fionn mac Cumhail (anglicised as Finn McCool).

The 'choir' here recalls the 'wise choirs of faery' in No. 19.

Note the unusual formal aspects of this poem, in which 'now' and 'go' are rhymed with themselves in the first four lines, and the rhythm goes awry in the last two.