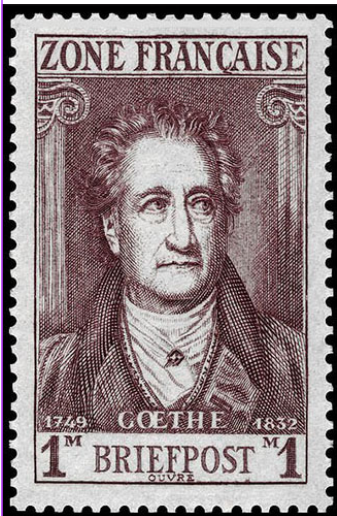


My Hero: Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)



France #863: Goethe
(issued 11-9-1959)



Germany #4N11: Goethe
(issued 12-17-1945)



Luxembourg #593: Goethe
(issued 3-14-1977)



Germany #B306-B308 (issued 8-15-1949 for his birth bicentennial)

Faust (Part I, 1808)

Behind me, field and meadow sleeping,
I leave in deep, prophetic night,
Within whose dread and holy keeping
The better soul awakes to light.
The wild desires no longer win us,
The deeds of passion cease to chain;
The love of Man revives within us,
The love of God revives again.

Ah, when, within our narrow chamber
The lamp with friendly lustre glows,
Flames in the breast each faded ember,
And in the heart, itself that knows.
Then Hope again lends sweet assistance,
And Reason then resumes her speech:
One yearns, the rivers of existence,
The very founts of Life, to reach.

— Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, *Faust*
Part I, Scene III: The Study
translated by Bayard Taylor (1870),
Random House, NY, 1950, pp. 41-42

Typed [above passage](#) from *Faust* in Prologue of my
Chemistry Ph.D. thesis at Cornell (1970) as Goethe's
message spoke to me on embarking the spiritual path.
Goethe's *Chorus Mysticus* at the end of *Faust* shows
the importance of "Eternal Feminine" in leading us
above, like Beatrice guiding Dante to Paradise (1321).

Faust (Part II, 1831)

Chorus Mysticus
All things corruptible
Are but a parable;
Earth's insufficiency
Here finds fulfilment;
Here the ineffable
Wins life through love;
Eternal Feminine
Leads us above.

— Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, *Faust*
Part II, Act V, Closing Lines
translated by Philip Wayne,
Penguin Books, Baltimore, 1959, p. 288

More Insights from Goethe:

["Goethe's Rebirth in Rome"](#) (8-23-1787);
["Earth Inhaling & Exhaling"](#) (4-11-1827);
["Goethe on Literature"](#) (10-11-1828);
["Goethe on Peace"](#) (1780 & 1808);
["Goethe on Rubens"](#) (4-18-1827);
["Goethe & Alchemy"](#) (1768-1769);
["Goethe & Heidelberg"](#) (1795 & 1797);
["Goethe's "Gingo Biloba"](#) (9-23-1815);
[Poem: "Meeting Goethe in Heidelberg"](#)
(12-13-2007) & [Notes](#) (12-19-2007).



10 pf: Goethe & *Iphigenie* * 20 pf: Goethe & *Reineke Fuchs* * 30 pf: Goethe & *Faust*
Germany West Berlin #9N61-63 (issued 7-29-1949 for his birth bicentennial)