

## Be Still and Know

By Peter C. Venable

It is in fact absurd and impossible to try to grasp God as an object  
which can be sized and comprehended by our minds.

Thomas Merton, *Contemplative Prayer*

All our language about God is symbolic, metaphorical.  
When we speak of God we are always using analogies.

William H. Shannon, *Silence on Fire*

With arachnid purpose one spins the mind's web  
but it remains silken limits to its outermost strand.

Shells of ideas and images dangle at the edges  
and a fresh one is savored at the center.

Descend into misty darkness,  
until the web is hidden far above.

In the deep, stillness hovers heavy as tar.  
Shades and shadows fade into pitch.

In feathery silence the Sacred  
wafts his fragrant breath

And one severs the last strand from the web  
and breathes in her moist air.



**Peter Venable**

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