

Weekly Written Response #9:
Divine Comedy's Paradiso

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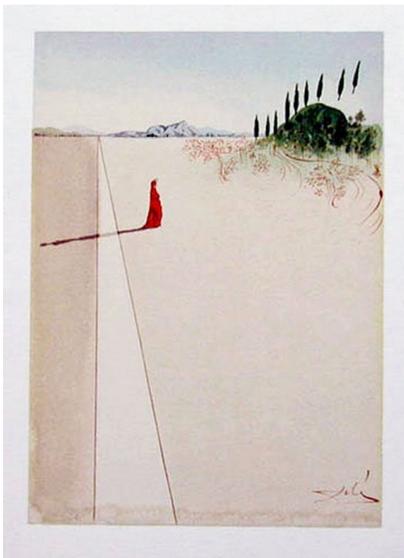
Reflection for “*Divine Comedy's Paradiso*”

The Divine Comedy, the work of the Italian poet Dante, has had an unshakable influence on the worlds of art and philosophy. From the 13th century to the present, artists have used different angles, media, and methods to present the world after death depicted by Dante. Dante describes various scenes of the non-material world in the Catholic system from "Inferno," "Purgatorio," and "Paradiso." The first-person narration is carried out for Western religious views, life and death views, and humanistic creation. I believe that no translated version can interpret the words that Dante wanted to express in the original Italian. This work has been translated and adapted into movies, albums, and paintings, but I am still very curious about the world in Dante's mind. Although he used the Catholic system to describe the afterlife world, it seems to me that he also added elements of Greek mythology. He mentioned Jesus, the Virgin Mary, Cupid, and many other gods that would appear in mythology in the chapter on heaven. The Divine Comedy also quotes many Bible verses and brings in philosophical thinking. It is said that the Divine Comedy is the favorite book of the philosopher Musk.

What surprised me is that Divine is actually a love story of Dante himself and his childhood crush, Beatrice, even though the whole book describes heaven and hell. In his journey, he made Beatrice his guide. In Paradise Chapter 2, "each different power forms a different compound" reflects 1 Corinthians 15:41, "The sun has its glory, the moon has its moon, and the stars have their stars. The stars

and there are also differences in the glory of that star." There are also many chapters that quote verses, stories, and ideas from the Bible, which is one of the reasons why I enjoy reading the Divine Comedy. Dante's insights are interesting, but of course, Christians need to be careful not to let the truth get carried away when they read. I hope to one day read every chapter of the Divine Comedy and learn more about such a classic work. This is definitely a valuable poem, not only for its literary merits but also for its ability to make readers ponder more about God's words and the afterlife world.

And here are some of my favorite pieces of the Divine Comedy from the artist **Salvador Dali** :)



Inferno Series: **The Delightful Mount**



Paradiso Series: **The Celestial Staircase**



Paradiso Series: **Divine Impenetrability**