**Va Pensiero**

It was represented for the first time on 9th March 1842 at “**Teatro alla Scala**” in Milan.The historic plot is about the capture of Jerusalem by Nabucodonosor (587 a.C.) and the deportation to Babilonia of the Jews .The words “Go,Thought” express the homesickness of Jews for the loss of their native land.It is an allegory to the Italian condition, submitted to the Austrians.

*Va, pensiero, sull'ali dorate;  
Va, ti posa sui clivi, sui colli,  
Ove olezzano tepide e molli  
L'aure dolci del suolo natal!  
  
Del Giordano le rive saluta,  
Di Sïonne le torri atterrate...  
Oh mia patria sì bella e perduta!  
Oh membranza sì cara e fatal!  
  
Arpa d'or dei fatidici vati,  
Perché muta dal salice pendi?  
Le memorie nel petto riaccendi,  
Ci favella del tempo che fu!  
  
O simile di Solima ai fati  
Traggi un suono di crudo lamento,  
O t'ispiri il Signore un concento  
Che ne infonda al patire virtù!*

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*Go, thought, on golden wings,  
Go, alight on the cliffs, on the hills,  
Where waft the warm and gentle  
Sweet breezes of our native land.  
  
Greet thou Jordan’s banks,  
The fallen towers of Zion…  
Oh, my fatherland, so beautiful and lost!  
Oh, remembrance so dear and fatal!  
  
Harp of gold of prophet bards,  
Why hangst thou silent from the willow?  
Rekindle memories in our breast,  
Speak to us of the time that was.  
  
O [harp], like Solomon to the fates,  
Draw out a sound of harsh lamentation;  
O may the Lord inspire in thee an accord  
Which might infuse our suffering with virtù!*

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