Il y a des mots qui font vivre

... Il y a des mots qui font vivre,
Et ce sont des mots innocents.
Le mot chaleur, le mot confiance,
Amour, justice et le mot liberté;
Le mot enfant et le mot gentillesse.

Et certains noms de fleurs et certains noms de fruits;
Le mot courage et le mot découvrir
Et le mot frère et le mot camarade
Et certains noms de pays, de villages
Et certains noms de femmes et d'amis ...

There Are Words Full Of Hope*

There are words full of hope,
Everyday, simple words.
The word warmth, the word confidence,
Love, justice and the word liberty;
The word child and the word kindness.

And certain names of flowers and the names of certain fruits;
The word courage and the word to discover,
And the word brother and the word comrade;
And the names of certain countries, of certain towns,
And special names for women and for friends ...

Paul Eluard, 1944
(Translation by Beetie Culloo)

*During the Occupation of France (1939-1945), Paul Eluard (1895-1952) wrote these lines to encourage the French people in their sufferings, especially those who had lost their liberty through imprisonment.