



## Poems of St. Thérèse

### Thou Hast Broken My Bonds, O Lord

*for a Postulant, on her entrance-day into Carmel*

Thou, Jesu! on this day my earthly bonds hast broken.

In Mary's Order old, my soul true goods shall find;

And if today: "farewell" my quivering lips have spoken

To those who loved me best, so dear, so true, so kind,

Thou, Lord, wilt be to them far more than I could be;

And Thou wilt deign to win some sinful souls through me.

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Jesu! on Carmel I shall dwell -  
Thy love has called Thy child to that oasis fair;  
There I desire to serve Thee well,  
To love Thee there, and then to die,  
There! yes, my Jesu, there!

O Jesu! on this day, Thy loe my prayer has  
granted;  
Before Thy altar throne hereafter 'tis my part  
Calmly to wait for heaven, - all pain to bear un-  
daunted, -  
And, lifting to the rays of Thy white Host my  
heart,  
Within that fire of love all self to burn away,  
And, like a seraph blest, to serve Thee night and  
day.

Ah, Jesu! 'twill be mine to dwell,  
One day, with Thee on high, in heaven's bright  
mansions fair

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There evermore to love Thee well,  
To love Thee, and no more to die,  
There! yes, my Jesu, there!

*-Saint Teresa of Lisieux  
15 August 1895  
translated by S L Emery*