

*“What again shall we say of the actual acquirement of knowledge? - is the body, if invited to share in the inquiry, a hinderer or a helper? I mean to say, have sight and hearing any truth in them? Are they not, as the poets are always telling us, inaccurate witnesses? and yet, if even they are inaccurate and indistinct, what is to be said of the other senses? - for you will allow that they are the best of them?”*

*...*

*“Then when does the soul attain truth? - for in attempting to consider anything in company with the body she is obviously deceived.”*

*...*

*“Then must not existence be revealed to her in thought, if at all?”*

*...*

*“And thought is best when the mind is gathered into herself and none of these things trouble her - neither sounds nor sights nor pain nor any pleasure - when she has as little as possible to do with the body, and has no bodily sense or feeling, but is aspiring after being?”*

