THE GOOD-MORROW.  
By John Donne

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| I WONDER by my troth, what thou and I Did, till we loved ? Were we not wean'd till then?  But suck'd on country pleasures, childishly?  Or snorted we in the Seven Sleepers' den? 'Twas so ; but this, all pleasures fancies be ; If ever any beauty I did see,  Which I desired, and got, 'twas but a dream of thee.  And now good-morrow to our waking souls,  Which watch not one another out of fear ; For love all love of other sights controls, And makes one little room an everywhere. Let sea-discoverers to new worlds have gone;  Let maps to other, worlds on worlds have shown;  Let us possess one world ; each hath one, and is one.   My face in thine eye, thine in mine appears,  And true plain hearts do in the faces rest ; Where can we find two better hemispheres  Without sharp north, without declining west ? Whatever dies, was not mix'd equally ; If our two loves be one, or thou and I  Love so alike that none can slacken, none can die. | I really wonder what you and I have been doing during that long time before we fell in love? Weren’t we like children before being weaned enjoying childish pleasures (other love)  Or did we snore in deep sleep like (أهل الكهف(  It must be that because all the pleasures before our union was a fancy and all beauty that I had seen before was just a dream of you.  And now good morning (the sun of our love awakens us) to our waking up to find each other not out of fear but sight of love that makes our small space the whole world.  Let people who want to find adventure travel to the new worlds (the Americas and Australia) with maps and complex trips  While we need only each other to form such a world in which we become one.  My face appears in your eyes and my face in your eyes appear (meaning understand each other) and our hearts (feelings) show in our faces  So where else can we find two better hemispheres (he is a hemisphere and his lover is another hemisphere combined they form a whole sphere) but our sphere will not have sharp north or declining west (because our world will be perfect)  Other people’s love dies because it was never mixed equally  In fact our union (because it is so perfect) will never die. |

**Stanza One**: The reference to the seven sleepers’ den (cave):

1. Many critics acknowledge that this can be a reference to the story mentioned in the Quran of the group of believers who resorted to a cave to escape a pagan king who would prosecute them and miraculously slept for centuries.
2. Another group of critics think that this is a reference to an analogy by Plato stating that if a group of people were locked in a cave since the beginning of time (and chained), they would not know anything about the world. They would think their shadows as real things while they are only shadows. However, when they are freed, they would go into the world and understand its reality realizing their previous understanding of the world was just a fantacy.

**Stanza three**: Where can we find two better hemispheres?

1. Some critics say the hemispheres are the eyes but this is not very convincing since the poets and his beloved’s eyes would make four not two.
2. Other critics (which is probably more convincing) refer to Aristophanes’ (Greek Scholar) explanation of love by saying that at the beginning of time people were shaped like a sphere with four legs, four arms and to sides of the face. However, the god Zeus was angry with humans and for that reason punished them by splitting them into two halves (hemispheres). The punishment of course is that people would always feel something is missing and they spend their whole lives looking for their other half (love).

**How far is this poem a metaphysical one?**

**Important tip: do not read any outside references. The best answer will be the one from your own analysis.**