

Gerard Manley Hopkins
Inversnaid
More questions to challenge you!

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1. Turns and twindles over the broth
Of a pool so pitchblack.
 - The word "twindles" is a creation by the poet. What do you think it means? (4)
 - What is "the broth of a pool"? Hint: the poet is NOT comparing the pool, or its colour, to a cup of soup! (4)

2. a pool so pitchblack, féll-frówning,
It rounds and rounds Despair to drowning.
 - Why is the pool "pitch black" and "féll-frówning"? (4)
 - What does the poet mean when he says "It rounds and rounds Despair to drowning"? (4)

3. Degged with dew, dappled with dew
Are the groins of the braes that the brook treads through.
 - Comment on the use of alliteration in the first line. (4)
 - Comment on the word usage in the second line. (4)

4. Wiry heathpacks, fitches of fern,
And the beadbonny ash that sits over the burn.
 - "Fitches of fern" is the most wonderful onomatopoeia. Explain. (4)
 - Explain the choice of words in "beadbonny ash". (4)

5. What would the world be, once bereft
Of wet and of wildness? Let them be left,
O let them be left, wildness and wet;
Long live the weeds and the wilderness yet.
 - Is Hopkins suddenly giving way to a mood of depression in this verse? Explain. (4)
 - Comment on the use of alliteration in these lines. (4)

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