

Гой ты, Русь, моя родная...
Сергей Есенин

Praise to You, Rus
Sergey Yesenin

<p>Гой ты, Русь, моя родная, Хаты — в ризах образа... Не видать конца и края — Только синь сосет глаза.</p> <p>Как захожий богомолец, Я смотрю твои поля. А у низеньких околиц Звонно чахнут тополя.</p> <p>Пахнет яблоком и медом По церквам твой кроткий Спас. И гудит за корогодом На лугах веселый пляс.</p> <p>Побегу по мятой стежке На приволь зеленых лех, Мне навстречу, как сережки, Прозвенит девичий смех.</p> <p>Если крикнет рать святая: «Кинь ты Русь, живи в раю!» Я скажу: «Не надо рая, Дайте родину мою».</p>	<p>Praise to you, Rus, beloved by me - An Icon embellished by peasant homes. There's no horizon for one to see, Only a blue haze creating a distant dome.</p> <p>Like the visiting holy seers, I see the wonders of your space, But also the dying poplars' tears, Reflecting the misery that some face.</p> <p>The sweet smell of countryside abounds. In churches people marvel at your mystery. The meadows ring out dancing sounds, Sharing with joy your glorious history.</p> <p>I head along well-trampled paths, Drawn into endless forests of green, Welcomed by the sounds of girlish laughs, Adding music to the flowering trees.</p> <p>Should the heavenly hosts try to entice Me to leave Rus and live in Eternity, I would say "I don't need paradise," I'll stay in my homeland happily.</p>
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Notes:

Гой: taken from Old Slavic. With ты used as a greeting; original meaning abundance, peaceful life. So *Abundance/health to you, my homeland.*

Корогод: Can mean 'round dance' (Vasmer's Etymological Dictionary) but also "a whole row, an order of something, a row of piles" (Dahl's Dictionary) and so also a fence of some sort. So *And there hums from behind the fence in the meadows a merry/cheerful dance.*

Серезжки: Can mean earrings but also catkins (cylindrical flower clusters, with inconspicuous or no petals, as on birch trees).