

Part Three

THE PURGATORIO

In the *Purgatorio* we breathe an intimate and austere atmosphere; gone is the exaltant tension – peculiar to archetypal poetry – that permeated the *Inferno* and which will be encountered again in the *Paradiso*. Here the tone is more familiar and subdued and expresses the “long and tiring journey” that is our life.

The *Purgatorio* is truly human, whereas the *Inferno* was diabolical and the *Paradiso* will be utter mystery.