



“La dolcezza [...] / che, non gustata, non s’intende mai” (Par. III 38-39)

Synesthetic sweetness as therapeutic rhetoric in Dante’s *Comedy*

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Abstract: The synesthetic “sweetness” constitutes a rhetorical form and an essential intellectual game in the *itinerarium mentis* of the *Comedy* and in particular of the *Paradise*. Dante develops a language of spiritual intersensoriality which supports the perceptual synthesis of the ineffable and thus acts as a form of “sweet remedy” for the intellect and poetic expression. On the via to *dulcedo Dei*, the author uses an unprecedented writing technique, where the aesthetic experience becomes a soteriological act.

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