

Jean de La Fontaine,  
The Cricket and the Ant

*tradukita de Donald P. Webb*

The cricket had sung her song  
all summer long  
but found her victuals too few  
when the north wind blew.  
Nowhere could she espy  
a single morsel of worm or fly.  
Her neighbor, the ant, might,  
she thought, help her in her plight,  
and she begged her for a little grain  
till summer would come back again.  
“By next August I’ll repay both  
Interest and principal; animal’s oath.”  
Now, the ant may have a fault or two  
But lending is not something she will do.  
She asked what the cricket did in summer.  
“By night and day, to any comer  
I sang whenever I had the chance.”  
“You sang, did you? That’s nice. Now dance.”

*Traduko de la Franca poemo “La Cigale et la Fourmi” de JEAN DE LA FONTAINE (\*1621-07.08 – †1695-04.12) en la Anglan de DONALD P. WEBB (\*1939).*

*Arg-549-1111 (2010-08-06 19:10:14)*

*Mi, Manfred Retzlaff, transprenis tiun ĉi tradukon el la retejo <http://www.bewilderingstories.com/issue209/cigale.html>. La tradukinto, s-ro Don Webb, permesis tion mi. - I, Manfred Retzlaff, found this translation in the website <http://www.bewilderingstories.com/issue209/cigale.html>. The author, Mr. Don Webb, gave me the permission.*