GIUSEPPE CONTE, *RICORDIAMOCI DELL’11 SETTEMBRE*, 2001

The poem is about the tragedy of 9/11. It is written by Giuseppe Conte in the aftermath of the World Trade Center attack.

The title express clearly the intention to remember the tragedy. The poet invites everyone to reflect and remember the absurdity and the horror of this massacre. The poem tries to connect people of every country, culture, religion: this concept is underlined by the use of the word “ricordiamoci” and the use of the pronoun “ci”.

The poem is composed of a single stanza.

The poet uses the metaphor of a “nebulosa” to describe the terrible effects the attack has not only in US but in the whole world. it gives the idea that the tragedy is considered such by every culture and country. The image of the “nebulosa” gives the idea of death, destruction, devastation of the soul.

The poet presents a list of effects that describe the real situation of New York after the collapse of the World trade Center: “fumo grigio”, “polvere”, “calce”, “volti di uomini, vie, automobile come se avessero preso dominio gli Inferi”.

The poet refers to the semantic field of religion even to recall the reasons why terrorist attack the Twin Towers.

Then there’s the repetition of the first sentence, which separates the first part to the second one, which stands in opposition to the first image of destruction.

The lexical choice of use religious terms is support also in the second sequence of the poem where the speaking voice invites readers to pray. There is a metaphor “Dio” – “bambino” that conveys the nature that God should have in every culture.

The contrast with the first part is also underlined by the antithesis between God and Hell that respectively come out in the second and in the first part of the poem. the poet express the will to not repeat this fatal mistake. He invites people from all over the world to remember but to forget this terrible day.

MARIO LUZI, *11 SETTEMBRE*, 2002

Considering the title, the intelligent reader may understand that the main theme of the poem is connected to hope, peace and religious faith, but it is not explained which kind of religious faith.

Mario Luzi wants to convey a message of peace with his poem 11 Settembre. He does a dialog with the Twin Towers. He tells them his prayer of hope and rebirth.

The poet confers the idea that the attack do not beat only United States but the entire world, every culture, religion and point of view. Nobody can retain this action a good action. The asyndeton places on the same layer Arabs, Christians, Jews and Hindus, suggesting the idea of their union in facing the tragedy and in hoping peace.

The narrator uses the metaphor of a lily to explain his desire of rebirth of the Twin Towers as a symbol of peace.

In this hope in a better future the poem is quite close to the message of Giuseppe Conte’s poem about the 11th September, but they are different in the way used to give the message.

On a rhetorical level, the contrast between “frenesia” and “morte” connotes the absurdity of the attack and the size of confusion of the aftermath. Indeed, the final repetition of the complement of specification “di pace” connotes the dream of peace that all people have to wish in order to prevents tragedies such this.