

TABLE 10.1

Excerpt from *Cantares Mexicanos* #20 by Aztec Poet Nezahualcoyotl

Nahuatl

Tiazque yehua xon ahuiacan.

Niquittoa o ni Nezahualcoyotl. Huia!

Cuix oc nelli nemohua oa in tlalticpac?

Yhui. Ohuaye.

Anochipa tlalticpac. Zan achica ye nican ...

Tel ca chalchihuitl no xamani, no teocuitlatl in tlapani, no quetzalli poztequi ...

Anochipa tlalticpac zan achica ye nican.

Ohuaya ohuaya.

English

We will pass away.

I, Nezahualcoyotl, say, enjoy!

Do we really live on earth?

Yhui. Ohuaye. (refrain)

Not forever on earth, only a brief time here ...

Even jades fracture, even gold ruptures, even quetzal plumes tear:

Not forever on earth: only a brief time here.

Ohuaya, ohuaya. (refrain)
