The essay attempts to explore a highly controversial issue, that of Maurice Blanchot's alleged atheism, and partially contradict it. Starting from Caputo's proposal to look for Derrida's prayers and tears, and investigating several Blanchotian récits, it similarly and persistently asks the Augustinian question on the French philosopher and literary theorist: “what do I love when I love my God?”. My aim is to find out who Blanchot's God was and such a critical analysis resorts to a threefold...
structure based on one of Blanchot's keywords (viens!- come), on what I tentatively called prière (prayer, praying, begging), and a final promesse (promise).

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Though Maurice Blanchot’s status as a major figure in 20th century French thought is indisputable, it is debatable how best to classify his thought and writings. To trace the itinerary of Blanchot’s development as a thinker and writer is to traverse the span of 20th century French intellectual history, as Blanchot lived through, and engaged with, in some capacity, virtually every single major intellectual movement of the age. Maurice Blanchot, a reclusive French novelist and essayist who influenced the postmodernist intellectual movement championed by Jean-Paul Sartre and Michel Foucault, died on Feb. 20. He was 95. Coming of age in the 1930’s, Mr. Blanchot was among the first French intellectuals to take an interest in issues of language and meaning. In his critical writing he came to insist that for the writer and the reader, language can never capture everyday reality. Among his novels published in English are “Thomas the Obscure,” “Death Sentence,” “Th Maurice Blanchot (September 27, 1907 – February 20, 2003) was a French pre-war leader of the Young Right, philosopher, literary theorist and writer of fiction. Blanchot was a distinctly modern writer who broke down generic boundaries, particularly between literature and philosophy. He began his career on the political right, but the experience of fascism altered his thinking to the point that he supported the student protests of May 1968. Like so many members of his generation, Blanchot was influenced Ending and Unending Agony: On Maurice Blanchot. Fordham University Press. Philippe Lacoue-Labarthe. Year: 2015. Language: english. Haptic Experience in the Writings of Georges Bataille, Maurice Blanchot and Michel Serres. Peter Lang AG, Internationaler Verlag der Wissenschaften. Crispin T. Lee. Year: 2014. Language: english. Maurice Blanchot is a towering yet enigmatic figure in twentieth-century French thought. A lifelong friend of Levinas, he had a major influence on Foucault, Derrida, Nancy, and many others. Both his fiction and his criticism played a determining role in how postwar French philosophy was written, especially in its intense concern with the question of writing as such. Never an academic, he published most of his critical work in periodicals and led a highly private life.