

The Cavern

Inter Arma

The sun stings my faded eyes
On this burning morn
No refuge in sight
No breath to cull a cry

Dragging my broken bones
In a trail of dust behind me
Under the dispiriting watch
Of the soulless, blinding eye

Rising from the desert
An exiled peak stands forlorn
A vast fortress whose facade
Defies the will of all men
Crawling from the desert
An exiled man weeps forlorn
A frail vessel whose will
Has been defied by all men

In the shadow of a gnarled tree
At the foot of the peak, I collapse
And with one last remaining thought
I yearn for a grave in which to lie

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Can be this be the end?
Is this all I have left?
To die at the foot of this towering peak?

As night's hold creeps forward
A brilliant light appears from a concealed hollow
I gather my strength and rise from the dust
For this strange light lures me forward

It calls my name
It draws me near
It calls me name
It draws me near

I cross the threshold into this new realm
And with every step the light becomes brighter
As exhaustion's clutch takes hold, I fall to the bank
Of a shimmering pool as clear as glass

Millions of brilliant lights dance and flicker from it's depths
And with a sigh I cup my hands and drink
As my body falls numb and the light begins to fade
I know that in this cavern I'll die

Bird of prey
What is your place
Down in the fields
Trespasser divine
No hunger atones
And still you must weep
Over the bones
And burn like the sun
Bearing the load
There's no peace
Not in the sky
Not in the sea
Down in the dirt
Is where it must be
Down in the earth
Is where it must be
Down in the dirt
Is where it must be
Down in the dirt
Bird of prey
Trespasser divine
How do you sleep
Or measure the time
Your hunger alone
Must burn like the sun
And still you must weep
For everyone
For everyone

I awake to the howling of wind
My breath like acrid smoke in this thin glacial air

Where have I gone?
I try to shake off the confusion
And when I rise to my feet
I look out...
How am I standing at the summit of this lonesome peak?

Where have I gone?

The night sky splits and from it's wound
Bleeds a spiraling aurora
As this spectacle draws closer
A figure appears
An ethereal woman whose long hair veils her face
She offers me her hand and tells me to not be afraid
I take it and she pulls me to her breast
"Don't be afraid, don't be afraid" she says
As everything turns black