

## To A Loyal Friend

Sopor Aeternus

Once there was a time,  
when the conquest of  
pain was all that I  
could hope for, had  
been my only aim.  
Happiness or joy merely  
unwords without meaning,  
they were unwanted  
anyway as surely out of place.  
All I wanted was the  
voices to be silent  
a brief moment in the  
dark, in loneliness and chill.  
How I wished my mind  
could escape the cramped dungeon  
that was flying silently  
through space while  
I lay caged and chained within.  
Today my view - strangely  
increased - it is beyond compare,  
but nothing became easier,  
I'm still struggling to be free.  
A thousand different things  
dare to appear before my eyes  
now, they come and leave  
untouched, because still I cannot see.  
In true darkness there's  
no choice than to discover  
the uselessness of eyes,  
giving birth from their own despair.  
Here eyes can nothing but  
decay and if I fail and do  
identify myself with them  
then their destiny I'll share...  
You are with me all the time - all  
the time. So very unreasonable  
had been my fear. How could  
I ever believe that I might  
be losing you when forever  
we're connected and you  
are part of me. It's your  
omnipresence that defines  
the way in which I do  
exist, forcefully leading  
me back to where I do belong.  
Opening my eyes to see  
the true essence of my  
being, by dissolving  
the distractions of the  
outer world. In the loneliness  
of the pain you bring the  
isolation of my soul guarantees  
the maintenance of the only  
thing that I know, my  
natural and obvious difference.  
Beloved old friend and life-time  
companion without you to

nothing I would fall. Your  
power pervades me and lies  
me low, but at the same time  
a new strength is born in  
my soul.  
In a universe of change  
and continuous movement  
I am counting on you  
since I know you shall last.  
Being my darkness and  
the basis of splendor  
light-giving background  
as most fertile past. You  
transformation source  
of understanding you are  
the power that is pulling  
me down. Whenever  
lightness seeks to carry  
me away you connect  
me safely to the ground.  
You chill of my winter,  
eternal Saturn-sphere,  
petrified and frozen  
with a logic cold as ice  
I walk through the  
world look in surprise  
at the living without  
being able to share  
their strange delights.  
Beloved old friend, and  
bringer of sadness,  
shadow-like cloak almost  
matters so real, you slip  
right through me like  
I was merely membrane,  
my feelings so ambivalent  
when my wounds refuse to heal...