A giant order was discovered here
Of which the tassel and extended fringe
Are the scant stuff of our material lives.

This overt universe whose figures hide
The secrets merged in superconscient light,
Wrote clear the letters of its glowing code:
A map of subtle signs surpassing thought
Was hung upon a wall of inmost mind.

Illumining the world’s concrete images
Into significant symbols by its gloss,
It offered to the intuitive exegete
Its reflex of the eternal Mystery.

Ascending and descending twixt life’s poles
The seried kingdoms of the graded Law
Plunged from the Everlasting into Time,
Then glad of a glory of multitudinous mind
And rich with life’s adventure and delight
And packed with the beauty of Matter’s shapes and hues

Climbed back from Time into undying Self,
Up a golden ladder carrying the soul,
Tying with diamond threads the Spirit’s extremes.

In this drop from consciousness to consciousness
Each leaned on the occult Inconscient’s power,
In this soar from consciousness to consciousness
Each lifted tops to That from which it came,
Origin of all that it had ever been
And home of all that it could still become.

An organ scale of the Eternal’s acts,
Mounting to their climax in an endless Calm,
Paces of the many-visaged Wonderful,
Predestined stadia of the evolving Way,

Measures of the stature of the growing soul,
They interpreted existence to itself
And, mediating twixt the heights and deeps,
United the veiled married opposites
And linked creation to the Ineffable.

A last high world was seen where all worlds meet;
In its summit gleam where Night is not nor Sleep,
The light began of the Trinity supreme.
All there discovered what it seeks for here.
It freed the finite into boundlessness
And rose into its own eternities.

The Inconscient found its heart of consciousness,
The idea and feeling groping in Ignorance
At last clutched passionately the body of Truth,
The music born in Matter’s silences

Plucked nude out of the Ineffable’s fathomlessness
The meaning it had held but could not voice;
The perfect rhythm now only sometimes dreamed
An answer brought to the torn earth’s hungry need
Rending the night that had concealed the Unknown,
Giving to her her lost forgotten soul.  
A grand solution closed the long impasse  
In which the heights of mortal effort end.  
A reconciling Wisdom looked on life;  
It took the striving undertones of mind  
And took the confused refrain of human hopes  
And made of them a sweet and happy call;  
The inarticulate murmur of our lives  
And found for it a sense illimitable.  
575  
A mighty oneness its perpetual theme,  
It caught the soul's faint scattered utterances,  
Read hardly twixt our lines of rigid thought  
Or mid this drowse and coma on Matter's breast  
Heard like disjointed mutterings in sleep;  
580  
It grouped the golden links that they had lost  
And showed to them their divine unity,  
Saving from the error of divided self  
The deep spiritual cry in all that is.  
All the great Words that toiled to express the One  
Were lifted into an absoluteness of light,  
An ever-burning Revelation's fire  
And the immortality of the eternal Voice.  
There was no quarrel more of truth with truth;  
The endless chapter of their differences  
590  
Retold in light by an omniscient Scribe  
Travelled through difference towards unity,  
Mind's winding search lost every tinge of doubt  
Led to its end by an all-seeing speech  
That garbed the initial and original thought  
595  
With the finality of an ultimate phrase:  
United were Time's creative mood and tense  
To the style and syntax of Identity.  
A paean swelled from the lost musing deeps;  
An anthem pealed to the triune ecstasies,  
A cry of the moments to the Immortal's bliss.  
As if the strophes of a cosmic ode,  
A hierarchy of climbing harmonies  
Peopled with voices and with visages  
Aspired in a crescendo of the Gods  
600  
From Matter's abysses to the Spirit's peaks.  
Above were the Immortal's changeless seats,  
White chambers of dalliance with eternity  
And the stupendous gates of the Alone.  
Across the unfolding of the seas of self  
605  
Appeared the deathless countries of the One.  
A many-miracled Consciousness unrolled  
Vast aim and process and unfettered norms,  
A larger Nature's great familiar roads.  
Affranchised from the net of earthly sense  
610  
Calm continents of potency were glimpsed;  
Homelands of beauty shut to human eyes,  
Half-seen at first through wonder's gleaming lids,  
Surprised the vision with felicity;
Sunbelts of knowledge, moonbelts of delight

Stretched out in an ecstasy of widenesses
Beyond our indigent corporeal range.
There he could enter, there awhile abide.
A voyager upon uncharted routes
Fronting the viewless danger of the Unknown,

Adventuring across enormous realms,
He broke into another Space and Time.

**End of Canto Five**

**End of Book One**