

**Track 8: Canto Three, Section 4, lines 575 to 786**

575 Oft inspiration with her lightning feet,  
A sudden messenger from the all-seeing tops,  
Traversed the soundless corridors of his mind  
Bringing her rhythmic sense of hidden things.  
A music spoke transcending mortal speech.

580 As if from a golden phial of the All-Bliss,  
A joy of light, a joy of sudden sight,  
A rapture of the thrilled undying Word  
Poured into his heart as into an empty cup,  
A repetition of God's first delight

585 Creating in a young and virgin Time.  
In a brief moment caught, a little space,  
All-Knowledge packed into great wordless thoughts  
Lodged in the expectant stillness of his depths  
A crystal of the ultimate Absolute,

590 A portion of the inexpressible Truth  
Revealed by silence to the silent soul.  
The intense creatrix in his stillness wrought;  
Her power fallen speechless grew more intimate;  
She looked upon the seen and the unforeseen,

595 Unguessed domains she made her native field.  
All-vision gathered into a single ray,  
As when the eyes stare at an invisible point  
Till through the intensity of one luminous spot  
An apocalypse of a world of images

600 Enters into the kingdom of the seer.  
A great nude arm of splendour suddenly rose;  
It rent the gauze opaque of Nescience:  
Her lifted finger's keen unthinkable tip  
Bared with a stab of flame the closed Beyond.

605 An eye awake in voiceless heights of trance,  
A mind plucking at the unimaginable,  
Overleaping with a sole and perilous bound  
The high black wall hiding superconscience,  
She broke in with inspired speech for scythe

610 And plundered the Unknowable's vast estate.  
A gleaner of infinitesimal grains of Truth,  
A sheaf-binder of infinite experience,  
She pierced the guarded mysteries of World-Force  
And her magic methods wrapped in a thousand veils;

615 Or she gathered the lost secrets dropped by Time  
In the dust and crannies of his mounting route  
Mid old forsaken dreams of hastening Mind  
And buried remnants of forgotten space.  
A traveller between summit and abyss,

620 She joined the distant ends, the viewless deeps,  
Or streaked along the roads of Heaven and Hell  
Pursuing all knowledge like a questing hound.  
A reporter and scribe of hidden wisdom talk,  
Her shining minutes of celestial speech,

625 Passed through the masked office of the occult mind,  
Transmitting gave to prophet and to seer  
The inspired body of the mystic Truth.

A recorder of the inquiry of the gods,  
Spokesman of the silent seeings of the Supreme,  
630 She brought immortal words to mortal men.  
Above the reason's brilliant slender curve,  
Released like radiant air dimming a moon,  
Broad spaces of a vision without line  
Or limit swam into his spirit's ken.  
635 Oceans of being met his voyaging soul  
Calling to infinite discovery;  
Timeless domains of joy and absolute power  
Stretched out surrounded by the eternal hush;  
The ways that lead to endless happiness  
640 Ran like dream-smiles through meditating vasts:  
Disclosed stood up in a gold moment's blaze  
White sun-steppes in the pathless Infinite.  
Along a naked curve in bourneless Self  
The points that run through the closed heart of things  
645 Shadowed the indeterminable line  
That carries the Everlasting through the years.  
The magician order of the cosmic Mind  
Coercing the freedom of infinity  
With the stark array of Nature's symbol facts  
650 And life's incessant signals of event,  
Transmuted chance recurrences into laws,  
A chaos of signs into a universe.  
Out of the rich wonders and the intricate whorls  
Of the spirit's dance with Matter as its mask  
655 The balance of the world's design grew clear,  
Its symmetry of self-arranged effects  
Managed in the deep perspectives of the soul,  
And the realism of its illusive art,  
Its logic of infinite intelligence,  
660 Its magic of a changing eternity.  
A glimpse was caught of things for ever unknown:  
The letters stood out of the unmoving Word:  
In the immutable nameless Origin  
Was seen emerging as from fathomless seas  
665 The trail of the Ideas that made the world,  
And, sown in the black earth of Nature's trance,  
The seed of the Spirit's blind and huge desire  
From which the tree of cosmos was conceived  
And spread its magic arms through a dream of space.  
670 Immense realities took on a shape:  
There looked out from the shadow of the Unknown  
The bodiless Namelessness that saw God born  
And tries to gain from the mortal's mind and soul  
A deathless body and a divine name.  
675 The immobile lips, the great surreal wings,  
The visage masked by superconscient Sleep,  
The eyes with their closed lids that see all things,  
Appeared of the Architect who builds in trance.  
The original Desire born in the Void  
680 Peered out; he saw the hope that never sleeps,  
The feet that run behind a fleeting fate,  
The ineffable meaning of the endless dream.

Hardly for a moment glimpsed viewless to Mind,  
As if a torch held by a power of God,  
685 The radiant world of the everlasting Truth  
Glimmered like a faint star bordering the night  
Above the golden Overmind's shimmering ridge.  
Even were caught as through a cunning veil  
The smile of love that sanctions the long game,  
690 The calm indulgence and maternal breasts  
Of Wisdom suckling the child-laughter of Chance,  
Silence, the nurse of the Almighty's power,  
The omniscient hush, womb of the immortal Word,  
And of the Timeless the still brooding face,  
695 And the creative eye of Eternity.  
The inspiring goddess entered a mortal's breast,  
Made there her study of divining thought  
And sanctuary of prophetic speech  
And sat upon the tripod seat of mind:  
700 All was made wide above, all lit below.  
In darkness' core she dug out wells of light,  
On the undiscovered depths imposed a form,  
Lent a vibrant cry to the unuttered vasts,  
And through great shoreless, voiceless, starless breadths  
705 Bore earthward fragments of revealing thought  
Hewn from the silence of the Ineffable.  
A Voice in the heart uttered the unspoken Name,  
A dream of seeking Thought wandering through Space  
Entered the invisible and forbidden house:  
710 The treasure was found of a supernal Day.  
In the deep subconscious glowed her jewel-lamp;  
Lifted, it showed the riches of the Cave  
Where, by the miser traffickers of sense  
Unused, guarded beneath Night's dragon paws,  
715 In folds of velvet darkness draped they sleep  
Whose priceless value could have saved the world.  
A darkness carrying morning in its breast  
Looked for the eternal wide returning gleam,  
Waiting the advent of a larger ray  
720 And rescue of the lost herds of the Sun.  
In a splendid extravagance of the waste of God  
Dropped carelessly in creation's spendthrift work,  
Left in the chantiers of the bottomless world  
And stolen by the robbers of the Deep,  
725 The golden shekels of the Eternal lie,  
Hoarded from touch and view and thought's desire,  
Locked in blind antres of the ignorant flood,  
Lest men should find them and be even as Gods.  
A vision lightened on the viewless heights,  
730 A wisdom illumined from the voiceless depths:  
A deeper interpretation greatened Truth,  
A grand reversal of the Night and Day;  
All the world's values changed heightening life's aim;  
A wiser word, a larger thought came in  
735 Than what the slow labour of human mind can bring,  
A secret sense awoke that could perceive  
A Presence and a Greatness everywhere.

The universe was not now this senseless whirl  
Borne round inert on an immense machine;  
740 It cast away its grandiose lifeless front,  
A mechanism no more or work of Chance,  
But a living movement of the body of God.  
A spirit hid in forces and in forms  
Was the spectator of the mobile scene:  
745 The beauty and the ceaseless miracle  
Let in a glow of the Unmanifest:  
The formless Everlasting moved in it  
Seeking its own perfect form in souls and things.  
Life kept no more a dull and meaningless shape.  
750 In the struggle and upheaval of the world  
He saw the labour of a godhead's birth.  
A secret knowledge masked as Ignorance;  
Fate covered with an unseen necessity  
The game of chance of an omnipotent Will.  
755 A glory and a rapture and a charm,  
The All-Blissful sat unknown within the heart;  
Earth's pains were the ransom of its prisoned delight.  
A glad communion tinged the passing hours;  
The days were travellers on a destined road,  
760 The nights companions of his musing spirit.  
A heavenly impetus quickened all his breast;  
The trudge of Time changed to a splendid march;  
The divine Dwarf towered to unconquered worlds,  
Earth grew too narrow for his victory.  
765 Once only registering the heavy tread  
Of a blind Power on human littleness,  
Life now became a sure approach to God,  
Existence a divine experiment  
And cosmos the soul's opportunity.  
770 The world was a conception and a birth  
Of Spirit in Matter into living forms,  
And Nature bore the Immortal in her womb,  
That she might climb through him to eternal life.  
His being lay down in bright immobile peace  
775 And bathed in wells of pure spiritual light;  
It wandered in wide fields of wisdom-self  
Lit by the rays of an everlasting sun.  
Even his body's subtle self within  
Could raise the earthly parts towards higher things  
780 And feel on it the breath of heavenlier air.  
Already it journeyed towards divinity:  
Upbought upon winged winds of rapid joy,  
Upheld to a Light it could not always hold,  
It left mind's distance from the Truth supreme  
785 And lost life's incapacity for bliss.  
All now suppressed in us began to emerge.