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The Phoenix

Dale Ziegler

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Mythopoeic Society's Online Midwinter Seminar 2024

17th–18th February 2024: Something Mighty Queer

Submission Deadline: November 30, 2023

<https://mythsoc.org/oms/oms-2024.htm>

**Something
Mighty Queer**
ONLINE MIDWINTER SEMINAR 2024



The Phoenix

Abstract

The ageless eyes flashed forth then from a face unfurrowed, unlined, unworn;

Keywords

Poetry; Mythril; The Phoenix; Dale Ziegler

THE PHOENIX

The ageless eyes flashed forth then
from a face unfurrowed, unlined, unworn;
Feathers aflame with the rash reds of youth,
the Phoenix flung back her head
and smiled at the Sun.

Eyes young with yearning look longingly forth
from a feathered face
wreathed and wrinkled, ringed with age;
Faded wings

drooping,
dragging,
Forlorn the Phoenix
raises
her ardent orb,
and smiles at the Sun.



SONG OF THE PHOENIX IN THE FLAME

Rise, feathers of flame, feathers of flame, feathers of flame,
Rise, arise! Arise!
and now they flicker and glow . . . and grow.
I change as the leaves in the Fall.
All . . . my Springtime colors are scorched . . . and sere.
The heat sings and sings . . . through my wings.

Each flaming feather whispers as it withers
of another year:
another and another -
each become pain,
each reconsidered,
each lived again.

Rise, radiant years, rise, Arise! Sound, sibilant song, Ascend, Ascend!

I sing my jubilant years,
Each flickering day
an exquisite pain.

I burn as leaves in the Fall,
In shuddering gusts
of mortal release.

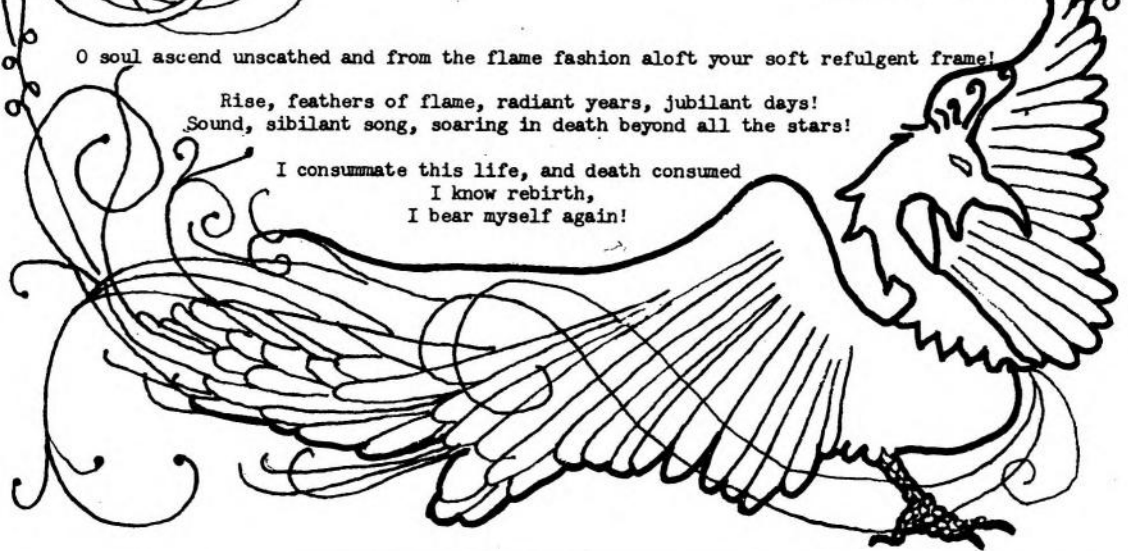
Rise, suffering soul,
Ascend, yesterdays' years.
Sing, for past all the stars
the Power that takes
prepares to renew
the promise of days,
Prepares a new life,
Presents a new age:

Another and another;
forever and forever.

O soul ascend unscathed and from the flame fashion aloft your soft refulgent frame!

Rise, feathers of flame, radiant years, jubilant days!
Sound, sibilant song, soaring in death beyond all the stars!

I consummate this life, and death consumed
I know rebirth,
I bear myself again!



by Dale Ziegler