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## *Havenforge*

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*Havenforge*

## Havenforge

by

Bran Blackwood

Daedalus cannibalized Ymir  
an aimless-drifting long ship,  
and built for himself a shell:  
a fire in the cold wild waters,  
an isle atop the waveless waste,  
a haven in heaven's starless space.

Clay fires, iron and bronze smelt  
in dark forges found below.  
The bellows bellow black lungs.  
They cough in cast iron cages,  
the will-o-wisp from their lips,  
dim amber lantern's breath aglow.

That black field of dreamless night  
folded to the work of his hands.  
A labyrinth rose from the depths,  
inhabited with Scorpio's seed,  
metal sons and porcelain daughters  
erected to amuse an ancient tinkerer.

A council of stars presides there,  
precise stems and gears to keep time  
and space, left to the aged ageless.  
A crippled captain crowned in cogs,  
is king of a newly formed New World,  
a shelter of retrofitted nouveau.