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Saturn's Complaint

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Saturn's Complaint

Saturn's Complaint

By

Kevan Bowkett

All Time is passed, there is none left to come.

All images are flat, scents stale, words into babble subside, then silence:
A silence not of gold but of black brass and lead.
Lungs are flattened in the flattened world, fruit yields dried paper's taste.
Unrolls a too-worn panoply of no-longer wonders:
An ivory tower that rises o'er the sea, a hill of awe,
Kine or swine of some drunk god or other,
Songs of elves, horns in the highlands ringing,
Spirits of brook, rock, lilac, and cedar;
Another reforged crown sits on the locks of yet another new-returned king,
Whose city glows again between the river and the hills
—All trceries merely in the air,
Which phantoms' forms themselves shall fade
— All shall run out
Into a well that gives nothing,
Festering in darkly-netted woods
Which smother the Four Quarters under the sky.

Yet
Another image loiters:
Above the Western Paradise gleams out
A single somber sigil of a star.

Look! Look keenly!

That star -- its rays bend Melancholy to Möbius,
And back round to Mirth:

And so renews the world again once more.