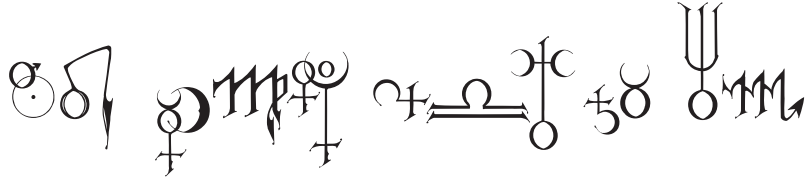


Hakeem



FOR five thousand years the story's been told,
Lightning strikes, thunder rolls –
Then reigns destruction, meanness undisguised,
Ojalá that from this time's ashes Peace arise.

Definitive as the late Summer Sun,
Throwing light on progress undone –
Analytical Mind, an otherwise zone,
How You define things we're not alone.

Self-confident leader, irrepressibly assertive,
A nurturing side, a Parent's motive –
Moon in Caring, Jupiter-plus Truth,
Aware the Power of the Voting Booth.

Blue Train through worrisome skies,
Guardian of wing-wiggling butterflies –
Eyes that comfort, that understand,
Envoy from the Promised Land.