ΘΕΛΗΜΑ

A TONE-TESTAMENT BY LEILA WADDELL

HOMAGE PRELIMINARY

LIFE that is lost in dullard Dreams of the senses, go! Life, by the soul fair-coloured, Thy valiant trumpets blow!

Far from the world where love is lust, And work is pain, and wealth is dust, Rise on the wings of love, and soar To the sun's self, the eternal shore Where flaming streamers soar and roll, Angels to guard its secret soul, The Garden where my love and I May walk to all eternity. Who dares to force the fiery gate May win our world inviolate. Children whose hearts are passionate; Maidens whose flesh is fair and fain, And men whose souls no senses stain, Come! These mad miles of flame of ours Are cool as springs and fresh as flowers.

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THE EQUINOX

And thou, sole star in my black firmament!

Thou, night that wraps me close, thou, moon that glimmers

Chaste, yet embraced, serenest element

Lapping my life as the sea laps a swimmer's; Thou, by whose strength and purity and love I leave this land, attain to the above,

Come thou rose-red, break on my soul like dawn

And gild my peaks, and bid their fountains flow;

For in thine absence all their life withdrawn Congealed my being to a sterile snow,

Snow fallen from some accursèd star to ban All the high hope and heritage of man.

Come thou, a gleaming goddess of pure pearl,

Price of mine homage to the great glad god I Come, saint and satyr praise alike the girl

Who to my whole life put the period Of all fulfilment, whose prophetic breath Girds me with life, and garlands me with death.

Come, be thy magic in the rime and rhythm,

Until the sea sways to the tender tune, And the winds whisper, and the leaves wave with them,

The leaves wherethrough we look upon the moon, So that men hear me of the world within Secure from sorrow, sanctified from sin,

HOMAGE PRELIMINARY

The world of stranger deities and loves Than haunted Ida, or were hidden in The Cretan bowers, the Eleusinian groves,

A world that trembles on thy violin, Eager to be—and then the curtain drops Just as thy music, with my heart's pulse, stops.

Nay! To this world of ours they shall not reach.

My rimes are shadows dancing in the breeze By moonlight; there is no delight in speech

Such as the silence of our own heart's ease; But even thy shadow is itself a sun To the bleak universe of Everyone.

Then open sesame! The fairy cavern

Of gold and gems, strange land of misty truth, As witches' eyes in a polluted tavern

Glow with the vampire vanity of youth Stolen from maids, so let thine own eyes shine In this fantastic mystery of thine!

Thine eyes are love and truth and loyalty; Thine eyes are mystery unveiled to one. Let them ray forth incarnate deity

Fit to assoil the eclipse-attainted sun! Let them point still my weather-beaten soul Infallibly the pathway of the pole! ALEISTER CROWLEY.

















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XXXV















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