

## DEDICATION

*Out of the East, out of the East  
Didst thou flame forth, O Son of Man,  
The chainless champion of the Beast!  
A warrior comet, thy plumes fan  
The shuddering air's black wildernesses  
To fiends' insatiate caresses.*

*Thou camest crowned and helmed and armed,  
Sworded, a mighty man of war:  
Swayed all the stars, aghast, alarmed  
As at the Thunderbolt of Thor!  
The very aethyr rocked and shook  
At thine indomitable look!*

*[Here must we utterly restrict  
Our theological remarks.  
One whom not Heaven could contradict  
Says: Now, Sir, if you please, no larks!  
Hence for third stanza (with a curse)  
I write instead this sorry verse.]*

*Yea, with one song of starry flame  
In brilliance of immortal youth  
Didst thou stand steadfast and proclaim  
Freedom and Ecstasy and Truth,  
Erect amid the wreck of Things  
Poised on inexorable wings!*

*So much the universe may see  
When its bat's-eyes may endure the sun:  
This secret rests my prize to me,  
That I knew thee, surpassed of none,  
Fighting and faithful to the end,  
A Perfect knight, a perfect friend.*