



came the day and came the angel  
from the spring of time unknown:  
bore a rose in bud to sway  
    & girl, alone:

summer in the stranger's face  
and in the radiant flower showed  
a message of unfolding grace,  
    against the gold:

"ah! the lord that sent the bloom,  
with seasoned love will overwhelm:  
swells the fruit of heaven's womb,  
    a child, earthborn:"

close she held the single rose,  
felt her joy pierced by a thorn:  
saw the winter stem exposed,  
    and blood flow down: