

## **Mephisto Walz**

### **"Dear Familiar Phantoms"**

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Again you come he hovering forms  
I find as early to my clouded sight ye shone  
Shall I attempt this once to seize and bind ye  
Still o'er my heart is that illusion thrown

Are we still standing  
Or if further we're ascending

You crowd more near then be the reign assigned ye  
And sway me from your misty shadow zone  
My bosom thrills with youthful passion shaken  
From magic airs that round your march awaken

All is turning...  
Trees and rocks with grinning faces  
All is whirling...  
Wandering lights that spin in mazes

Of joyous days you bring the blissful vision  
The dear familiar phantoms rise again  
And like an old and half-extinct tradition  
Renewed is pain with mournful repetition

First love returns with friendship in his train  
And names the good whose cheating fortune tore them  
Now life tracks his devious labyrinthe chain  
And left me to deplore them

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