

## Ocean

# "She Was The Universe"

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"Man is weaker and baser by nature than Thou hast believed him!

By showing him so much respect, Thou didst, as it were, cease to feel for him, for Thou didst ask too much from him - Thou who hast loved him more than Thyself?

Respecting him less, Thou wouldst have asked less of him.

That would have been more like love, for his burden would have been lighter."

[The Grand Inquisitor to Jesus, in Fjodor Dostoevsky "The Brothers Karamazov"]

I had a dream which was not all a dream  
The sun was extinguished  
And the stars wandered darkling in space  
Rayless, and pathless  
And the icy Earth swung blind and blackened in the  
moonless air  
And men forgot their passions in the dread  
Of this their desolation; And all hearts were chilled into  
a selfish prayer for light: They did live by watchfires  
And the thrones of crowned kings  
Habitations of all things which dwell  
Were burnt for beacons  
Oh Lord, I lack the strength  
To turn and leave you  
There's no confidence  
In my hesitation  
Happy were those who dwelt in the eye of the  
volcanoes  
Their mountain-torch: A fearful hope was all the world  
contained  
Forests were set on fire  
But hour by hour they fell and faded  
The crackling trunks extinguished with a crash - And all  
was black  
The brows of men by the despairing light wore an  
unearthly aspect  
The flashes fell upon them; Some lay down and hid  
their eyes  
And some did rest

Their chins upon their clenched hands, and smiled  
And vipers crawled  
And twined themselves among the multitude  
Hissing, but stingless  
They were slain for food  
A meal was bought with blood  
And each sate apart  
Gorging himself in gloom: No love was left

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