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Witter Bynner ''Kossovo Poem''

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Kossovo Poem

"There was a battle long ago, Before America was dreamed and found A battle fought and lost on Serbian ground And known as Kossovo.

There was a Serbian king, Lazar, Who, when offered earth or heaven by the Lord, Led Serbians against the Turkish horde. Chose an undying star.

Kosovo for five hundread years, Was a battle never finished, till at last, The mountains free, agony seemed to have passed The place of skulls and tears.

But no, not yet may freedom go Redeemed. Once more the Turks and heathen come Across the broken bridge of Christendom On the day of Kossovo.

Once more the hero calls to his men And to unimagined armies from afar And, by his death and by the undying star Oh heaven, signals again.

And all the free have now one foe And every freeman is a freeman's friend We come Lazar, to fight and win and end Your Battle, Kossovo."

- Poem by Witter Bynner written for the American edition of Kossovo Day on 28 June 1918.

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