

*Ah, this one!* said the dealer

*Is a favourite of mine*

*A pearl of extreme rarity*

*Its beauty, quite sublime.*

As he held it in two fingers

And raised it to the light

I allowed my gaze to linger

Transfix'ed by the sight.

*Come, don these magic spectacles*

*Made specially for you*

*They'll bring this tiny planet*

*More clearly into view.*

And so, I came to understand

My ignorance turned wise

The seas, the fields, the deserts

Spread out before my eyes.

The sum of life's ingredients

A weave of earth and soul

A tapestry, a work of art

More valuable than gold.

*How much?* I asked the dealer

*I'll take it, name your price*

*Or maybe we can play for it*

*With cards or coins or dice.*

He smiled.

*Alas, this beauty*

*I'm keeping for myself.*

Then he closed the lid,

Turned the key

And returned it to the shelf.

