

## ALEXANDER HAMILTON

O'ER tropic night's dark velvet dome  
A crystal star swings upward from the deep  
And gleams across the waters. So he came.  
No thunders shook the world; the vaulted blue  
Was arched serenely to the bluer sea.  
The banners of the flaming dawn were flung  
O'er Nevis and afar, when lo! love-born,  
And loftily conceived in mind and heart,  
This child of destiny first saw the light.

His mother knew the thrill of wondrous love:  
That ecstasy beyond all thought or speech  
Or dream that brings into the field of life  
By matchless miracle of parenthood  
The fire and flame of high eternal youth  
In beacon minds that keep the ages bright,  
Then join the hosts of the immortal dead.

Into that swirling gulf, the red-hot heart  
Of time's most central revolution, hurled  
By hurricane and fire, his soul was fed  
On tempests while his child-like heart beguiled  
World-music from the surges, in the foam  
Found exaltation, conquering the storm  
With weapons of the light.