

Each had four wings ; beneath their wings
Were human hands, and in their flight
They did not turn ; the living things
Went forward in the radiance bright.

Their wings were joined, and every face
As follows—one was leonine,
One human ; in the other place
An ox, and the bird aquiline.

Each of the living creatures showed
The contradiction of four shapes
Regarding head ; the human glowed ;
Behind, the ox, the eagle gapes.

Two wings joined upwards ; two the loins
Hid of this human-aquiline ;
And far above where wing-tip joins,
I saw the face of Whom Divine.

The creatures went straight forward, went
Whither the spirit led them they ;
And in their course turned not not bent,
But winged themselves the spirit's way.

Their likeness was like coals of fire,
Like lamps ; the burning brightness dashed
Among the creatures, lower, higher,
And from the fire the lightning flashed.

The creatures ran and then returned
Like the appearance of a flash
Of lightning ; so this spectre burned
With movement of this sudden dash.

Now I beholding these four things
Beheld one wheel upon the earth
Beside the living forms with wings,
A semblance of a lower birth,