

The Two Offerings.

Eben. O were the yeaulings weak and the grim
monsters
That prowl and ramp and shake the woods with
terror,
Peaceful together?

Adam. Children, you may listen. —
Ever enthusiastic, though this icon
Often have I presented.

Bright the sunshine
Of golden memories falls over me,
Even amidst the gloom. — I had just risen,
Crowned with ripe glory in my Maker's image.
He the All Beautiful beside me stood,
And summoned His glad creatures for review.
Wonder of wonders! In long varied lines
Of wavy splendor, they began their march.
I saw them moving o'er the dappled plains,
The tree clad dells, the breezy eminences,
The jagged hill tops and the deep ravines.
All shapes, each marvellous, strange, grotesque
or noble.

Strength and agility were represented,
And grace and elegance and rapturous beauty.
There the behemoth monstrous as a mountain,
Yet exquisitely moulded and superb,
There too the elephant of type sagacious,
Moved they unwieldy? No, seemed playful even,
Huge leaders of a long admiring file.
I saw each creature and perceived its nature.
And named them there. Such wisdom then
endowed me.