Remembrance—if at all—not as lost
Violent souls, but only
As the hollow men
The stuffed men

II

Eyes I dare not meet in dreams
In death’s dream-kingdom
These do not appear:
There, the eyes are
Sunlight on a broken column
There, is a tree swinging
And voices are
In the wind’s singing
More distant and more solemn
Then a fading star.

Let me be no nearer
In death’s dream kingdom
Let me also wear
Such deliberate disguises
Rat’s coat, crowskin, crossed staves
In a field
Behaving as the wind behaves
No nearer—

Not that final meeting
In the twilight kingdom

III

This is the dead land
This is cactus land
Here the stone images
Are raised, here they receive
The supplication of a dead man’s hand
Under the twinkle of a fading star.

Is it like this
In death’s other kingdom
Walking alone
At the hour when we are
Trembling with tenderness
Lips that would kiss
Form prayers to broken stone.

IV

The eyes are not here
There are no eyes here
In this valley of dying stars

In this hollow valley
This broken jaw of our lost kingdoms
In this last of meeting places
We grope together
And avoid speech
Gathered on this beach of the tumult river

Sightless, unless
The eyes reappear
As the perpetual star
Mulifoliate rose
Of death’s twilight kingdom
The hope only
Of empty men.

V

Here we go round the prickly pear
Prickly pear prickly pear
Here we go round the prickly pear
At five o’clock in the morning.

Between the idea
And the reality
Between the motion
And the act
Falls the Shadow

For These is the Kingdom

Between the conception
And the creation
Between the emotion
And the response
Falls the Shadow

Life is very long

Between the desire
And the spasm
Between the potency
And the existence
Between the essence
And the descent
Falls the Shadow

Part 3 of The Dream of the Rood, as the author reads it, to a sitting audience. The words of the third part are found in the book of Old English poems among the songs in the figure of a "mulifoliate rose." (Theodoric 1349.)

4. Allusion to a child’s thumb. On the thumb, “as the south wind” (Pandora 23), speaketh quietly every morning for the lovely flower-bud.

5. Allusion to a child’s thumb stone.