

# The Third Heaven

Carman

I was still aware of those around me  
I could hear their cries and sense their grief  
But was physically incapable  
Of responding to them in any way There was surprisingly no sensation of death  
But without doubt, I knew I was dying  
As my spirit and body naturally  
And without effort began to separate An entirely new dimension of reality unfolded  
Like the slow opening of a rare flower  
Celestial mysteries were revealed from beyond The atmosphere was permeated  
With the healing melody of an invisible choir  
And I knew I had entered the domain of the living God  
My eyes beheld a vast concourse of souls from every nation  
Dressed in the spotless garments of the redeemed  
With a loud voice they echoed praises to their King I saw a mighty throne around which was seated  
Four and twenty elders with crowns of glory  
And like the sound of rushing waters they began to sing Holy, holy, holy  
They sang  
Holy, holy, holy  
I heard them say  
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord They said  
Holy, holy, holy  
Holy, holy, holy  
Holy, holy, holy is Lord  
The whole principle of living was different  
Food and water wasn't needed to sustain life  
There was no mental agony, tears  
Source of tears or any physical pain Light did not come from one source like the sun  
But God's glory illuminated everything  
So shadows did not exist, neither did elemental changes  
Like snow, storms or even rain Then, in all of it's pristine graduer, I saw the Holy City  
Suspended like a cube at the expanse of eternity  
Fifteen hundred miles high and just as deep as it was wide Indescribable colors were refracting everywhere  
From the precious stones it was made of  
With twelve angels guarding the gates  
Fashioned from one solid pearl on each side Then, from behind me, I could sense the presence  
Of one whose virtue shot through the very fibers of my being  
As I slowly turned, a glorious radiance consumed my eyes  
His silhouette was backdropped by the immense sea of glass And for the very first time  
My eyes beheld one altogether lovely

The Lily of the Valley, the Fairest of Ten Thousands  
My Lord, my Saviour Jesus Christ  
I threw up my hands and cried Holy, holy, holy  
Holy, holy, holy  
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord My soul said  
Holy, holy, holy  
Holy, holy, holy  
Holy, holy, holy is the Lord His eyes were filled with tenderness  
Encouragement, strength and love  
His countenance proclaimed He knew everything  
There was to know or ever worth knowing Being with Him was to have everything I ever wanted  
Be everything I ever imagined  
And arrive at everywhere I only dreamed of going  
Then the same Voice that spoke the worlds into existence  
Spoke my name in affectionate tones He said, "My beloved child, there are those left behind  
Who are deeply grieved at your death  
They've prayed I return you to your earthly life  
And because of their faithfulness to Me  
I am willing to grant their request" I said, "Lord, if my loved ones only knew  
The limitless wonders of Heaven  
If they could steal but one brief glimpse of glory  
I know what they would do"" Because they loved me, they'd never ask  
That I return to the confines of my human body  
Lord, I can't go back, please let me stay with You" For You are the resurrection of the life  
The Son of the Living God  
You're the only one worthy of honor  
And glory and power and praise Master, only You make all things new  
For You alone are Lord and God, Saviour and King  
And forever and ever, throughout all eternity  
I'll join the hosts of heaven  
As they praise You day, after day, after day singing Lord of all the Earth  
Forever He shall reign  
Lord of glory, lamb of God  
And holy is His name My soul says  
Lord of all the Earth  
Forever He shall reign  
Lord of glory, lamb of God  
And holy is His name  
And holy is His name

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