# 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 wayThere 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 separateAn entirely new dimension of reality unfolded
Like the slow opening of a rare flower
Celestial mysteries were revealed from beyondThe 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 KingI 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 singHoly, holy, holy
They sang
Holy, holy, holy
I heard them say
Holy, holy, holy is the LordThey 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 painLight 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 rainThen, 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 wideIndescribable 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 sideThen, 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 glassAnd 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 criedHoly, holy, holy
Holy, holy, holy
Holy, holy, holy is the LordMy soul said
Holy, holy, holy
Holy, holy, holy
Holy, holy, holy is the LordHis eyes were filled with tenderness
Encouragement, strength and love
His countenance proclaimed He knew everything
There was to know or ever worth knowingBeing 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 tonesHe 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 praiseMaster, 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 singingLord of all the Earth
Forever He shall reign
Lord of glory, lamb of God
And holy is His nameMy 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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