

## THE COMET

BY CHARLES SLOAN REID

Celestial migrant, taugth of endless force  
The wanderlust of an untold desire,  
Eternal urge that fills a wanderer's course  
With trailing flames of friction-lighted fire,

Your journeyings command so wide a sweep,  
Man's sense of distance finds no unit clear  
To mind's instruction—trails ethereal keep  
The secret of your passage far and near!

What grand extremes your visitations know,  
Your tropic and your frigid zones of space!  
What meteor tides upon your sky-ways flow!  
What planets flag your strange, erratic race!

Projectile sun, or weird celestial toy,  
A boomerang from some exploded sphere  
That force may sunder yet cannot destroy,  
While atoms find ethereal media clear,

Grand spectacle of Earth's unclouded night,  
You held man's gaze in undivided awe,  
When, marvelling upon your giddy flight,  
He sensed the strangeness of celestial law.

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