

THE GREAT MIRACLE

BY CHARLES S. REID

A twitch of sinew, with a puling wail,
And vital force looks forth from new-born eyes,
Potential will enounced of form's travail,
Wherein strange pow'r, a moment sleeping, lies.

A splitting nut within the sodden mould
Of earth's wild wastes, whence nodding twigs invoke
The passing breeze, and from the minute fold
Of sundered tissue leaps the mighty oak.

A tiny cone beside a vicious thorn,
Its heart enwrapped a moment fleet in gloom—
A sudden movement, of weird essence born,
And sweet, compelling fragrance bursts abloom.

From rended wall of spheroid strangely lain,
The moment past a pulseless, inert thing,
Now springs with song a form, of beauty's train,
To sweep the endless skies on tireless wing.

And thus the miracle befits the end,
Creation's secret stays all human kind—
Hypnosis marks alone ascetic trend,
Sage jugglery but tricks the troubled mind.

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