

*Master of words and spells lord of oaths guide  
of souls messenger of heaven guardian  
of animals domestic and wild, playmate to Pan,  
prophet-in-chief to the Moirai, lyrist from birth  
whose first song was sung in praise of Mnemosyne,  
patron of smiths and poets trickster inventor liar  
adept at ways and means of exchange commercial  
and otherwise the grinning God of the common man  
the craftsman the farmer the merchant the thief (those last two  
one word in Homer) not sly but shifty cunning  
in terms of material gain elusive as quicksilver  
firm as the stones stood upright in your name  
to mark intervals in the distance we travel.*



Political man most unpolitical during the war  
an economic creature giving up on democracy  
in favor of selfish gain to such an extent the rulers  
had to augment the age-old public dividend  
to citizens who would bother to vote in a land of small  
officials and cunning beggars willing to let the war go on  
so long as the price of sardines stays low.



*The third highest consciousness begins in the images  
of things announced by the external senses,  
and reaches the purest discrimination of all  
things by means of their own reasons to which  
in their singularities it refers itself  
insofar as such things are founded in  
the primordial cause, and is consciousness  
of dianoia the internal sense.*



Empires come and go. Imperial  
emporia. *Sic transit*. Civilizations  
*ut etiam* the *membrum virile* rise and fall.  
Themis displaced by Tyche under bright-eyed Athene's  
male gaze. Well-struck coins worth their weight  
that rang true replaced by ill-struck coppers,  
good men like good money driven out  
by the bad. Owlsh omens thick as bats

squeaking out of the mouth of hell, oracles  
of Bakis and Sybil ten to the obol, soothsayers  
and dream-readers a dime a dozen, amulet-mongers  
pitching their wares elbow to elbow with songbird-vendors  
whose victims custom requires have their tongues cut out  
before their sacrifice by priests who savor the meals  
more than the Gods who are dying out from want of belief  
for being worthless in times of need supplanted by slapstick  
divinities — Chaos Clouds Language Vortex.



*May the intelligible Gods impart to me prayed Proclus  
a perfect intellect, the intellectual Gods  
an anagogic power; the supermundane rulers  
an energy indissoluble and liberated  
from material knowledge; the angelic choirs  
a true unfolding into light of divine concerns;  
beneficent demons a plentitude of inspiration  
from the Gods; and heroes a magnanimity  
permanently venerable and elevated.*



*There is a faculty of the mind that receives and transcribes  
every wave that touches the consciousness.  
This faculty is Ezra the scribe.  
Exalted to a point where it will receive  
from the spiritual side only, it then  
reads out of the law and interprets  
the spiritual meaning to all the people  
or the thoughts of the consciousness.  
Ezra is often called the Puritan of the Bible.  
He represents order, the faculty  
that holds every thought and act strictly  
to the Truth of Being regardless  
of circumstances or environments.  
Ezra and Esdras are the same. *The Book of Ezra  
is a lesson in the building of the house built “not with hands”  
the building of our consciousness the House of God.**