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Madonna

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Mythcon 51: The Mythic, the Fantastic, and the Alien
Albuquerque, New Mexico • Postponed to: July 30 – August 2, 2021



MADONNA

by

David Sparenberg

Fruited Madonna of the Earth
lays naked in a meadow of wild flowers.
A thousand and one honey bees
have alighted on her swollen abdomen.
Like fuzzy, pollinated angels
they gather in droning chant
to celebrate the coming of life.
(Her child will inherit sweetness
as a power over death.)

First milk, miniaturized to resemble rivers of light,
is hotly sucked from heavy breasts
by a smiling sun. Her
lips part, in panting breath, as
her womb, in mantic rapture, opens.

Another dream of God contracts, is pained with revelation,
and moistens the virgin beauty
of her fire-brown eyes.
Fingers dig and fists clench tight
compressing threads of grass. Here
will grow an altar of vines. And there
in leafy mounds
a pilgrim-shrine to venerate Our Lady
of purple grapes and gold-red apples.