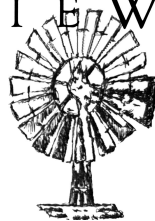


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Carved Door

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SWOSUTM

Carved Door

By Dennis Ross

I stagger with a heavy door, thick,
ancient oak with six carved panels:
a dove, a plow, flowers, wreathed
acanthus leaves. Setting it upright,
I balance it on brown, frustrated grass
in a parched, frustrated world
with the present eating the future.

I hear a group singing and a guitar
from the far side, a folk song
from the 60s about love, a new spirit
of peace in the world. Maybe

if I open my door, a revolution
of understanding will emerge,
a new thrust of green and growing,
and the bird of life, many colored
with many different and strange ideas,
will sing again on the Earth
and drown out the bigoted chants
of death in jackboots marching.