

# A MARTIAN VILLANELLE

*Samantha Henderson*

Far from the shelter of Ganymede Base  
Past the Valley which sleeps in perpetual night  
Where the Children of Men take their falcons to race

The Children of Women in furs and in lace  
Each year bring their torches and banners of light  
Far from the shelter of Ganymede Base

A mountain rears sheer in that perilous place  
Beneath it a secret that's tucked out of sight  
Where the Children of Men take their falcons to race

Two skeletons shelter in bony embrace  
A girl on the left and a boy on the right  
Far from the shelter of Ganymede Base

For centuries now it's been judged a disgrace  
For the male and the female to meet and unite  
Where the Children of Men take their falcons to race

They lie hand in hand and they lie face to face  
And over their meeting the two moons shine bright  
Far from the shelter of Ganymede Base  
Where the Children of Men take their falcons to race

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