

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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