

# EDEN

villanelle by nate stein

Eden lies abandoned still—  
No longer held by man,  
A futile journey up the hill.

They dared to face that godly will  
(The fall, it was His plan),  
So Eden lies abandoned still.

And we—cast out, reduced to nil—  
Descended but then boldly ran  
That futile journey up the hill.

The cherub sentry rested 'til  
He had to face the running, reckless man.  
Eden lies abandoned still.

Access rests upon some skill  
That won't be found in human plan.  
Still a futile journey up the hill.

The angels' paeans—brazen, shrill—  
Ringing clearly o'er Earth's span,  
Decree that Eden lies abandoned still,  
A futile journey up the hill.