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The Burdens Our Children Carry

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The Burdens Our Children Carry

The burdens our children carry are us.
Our defects are mirrored in them.
They glare like lions on the Mirawandi,
Hunting gazelle or buffalo at night.

What will our children do with such burdens?
Will they lug them into their adult lives?
Or will they shed them like outgrown clothes?

Neither Cassandra nor Teiresias,
I won't impose on my children
The burden of doing things one way,
For many paths lead through
The bush, and they all lead home.

Peter Huggins