Roots or Freedom

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ROOTS OR FREEDOM

Heidi Sauerwein

He could not see the future
He wanted not the past
The bonds that hold him to the earth
Eternally will last

The roots of life run deep
Sustaining what he knows
Supporting him in times of need
And watching as he grows

He cannot live without them
And with them he will die
They hold him firmly to the earth
When he was born to fly

The one advantage given
Was broken at his birth
The wings that should be flying
Can have no earthly worth

Wind calls his heart to soar
To climb above the clouds
Roots and earth bind him to the ground
Alone among the crowds

Ever slowly healing wings
Grow stronger every day
His struggle taking shape within
It will not go away

Envy glows upon his face—
And daily it has grown—
Of steam that rises freely up
The sky its only home

A day will come when fighting,
Internal, raw, and sore,
Will no longer wage within him
He will be no more

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He could not see the future
He wanted not the past
The bonds that held him to the earth
Have claimed his life at last.

Reborn again from ashes
Everything brand new
But battle scars remaining
He feels them through and through

Error, learning, test, and growth
His life will unfold
Till raging flames surround him
To temper him of old

Flames grow ever mightier
Swallowing his pride
His hopes and dreams forever
Are cracked and scarred inside

The fire is slowly dying
And turning into ash
Destroying and renewing
So gently but still rash

Reborn again from ashes
Old and scarred and gray
The fire is rebuilding
To show him endless day