Two Poems by Jerome Klotz

Have You Seen the Face of Beauty?

Have you seen the face of Beauty?
Have you heard her holy hymn?
Have you tasted of her goodness—
  surrounding all: without, within?

Have you held the whole of Being?
  Soared aloft like sacred dove?
  Filled your cup with hallowed madness—
    encircling all: below, above?

Have you sought the light of Wisdom?
  Seen her shining from the shore?
  All are waves upon her ocean,
    enfolding all: behind, before.

Have you breathed her honeyed fragrance?
  Beheld her form in glory donned—
  Divine Sophia in her splendor,
    embracing all: beneath, beyond?

She grants to you no strange possession;
  no alien dram; no foreign fare.
  “Take! Eat! Drink!” she bids you.
  For to her life, your soul is heir.
Ode to Wisdom

Wisdom never weeps.
  Her tears are not the scions of sorrow.
  Always divine, always divining,
  Her laughter makes all worlds.

Wisdom never lies.
  Her words are flame and fire,
  Always pure, always purifying,
  She is the dancing soul of truth.

Wisdom never sleeps.
  There is no burden Her eyelids cannot bear.
  Always beheld, always beholding,
  She is forever awake.

Wisdom never dies.
  Her life is a fortress and a castle.
  Always still, always stilling,
  The unmovable root in whom
  all motions find their rest.

Wisdom never hurries.
  She has no need for haste.
  Always fulfilled, always fulfilling,
  She has nowhere to be that is not Herself.

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Wisdom never ponders.
From Her, no secrets can be kept.
Always known, always knowing,
She is forever in love.

Wisdom never worries.
She has no need for care.
Always promised, always promising,
She knows the end is well.

Wisdom never wanders.
She is eternally at home.
Always summoned, always summoning,
She rings Her supper bell
and waits for all Her hungry children
to return through Her door.