

XI

Su-Tekh Battles Darkness

Su-Tekh

Voidblack

fearfrozen fall

Upon the mud

dense weight weighing

Heaving

fearblack voidfallen

frozen to the heatless earth

Wrenchringing rending

Scream voiceless

Rage impotent

futiles-fury; screamless

heavefall

flight-frozen; futile

Dense wrenching weightful force

a-scatter o'er the floodplains

burning; th'water deathstill

to rise beneath the mass

of malevolence

bruisebroken, buried to the

Tearing rendly vengeant

Voidfall brokenblack burns

its freezing havoc 'bout th'searing silence!

rage

Chaos Of The Red Land rising –
pushpulse fierce, fightly fury!
The serpent, Darkness,
Howl heavy in a voicesome, heaving scream!
Su-Tekh, against the serpent's force, stands tall!
About him, th'other gods writhe; retch! Sekh-Met
foams bloody from her quiv'ring muzzle; fall'n,
forced into the shallows – her awesome bulk
brought to a tenuous timidity;
her bloodlust blocked! Only He Of The Storm's
now free of the hypnosis of Darkness!

One only standing 'gainst the emptiness
of infinite, entropic primordy
resurging! Coil-constricting cold silence
ends energy's rebellion of light!
Hazemindfog... Blurblearying numbness drains
th'earth of all its movement! The Peak; Su-Tekh –
they hold, anticipating th'barren night's
miscarriage of the sun: the orb stillborn
'n cold upon the wrong horizon lain...
The Evil Of The End Of All Things comes
inevitable on the heels of time!

An unearthly quake upends the desert!
Coils wide as Iteru undulate vast
like great 'n jagged dunes of shifting sands!
Erupting from beneath the fertile fields
arises now the Swallower Of Souls,
its monumental head beset by eyes
whose slitted cores blaze black malevolence!
A hurricane of stormsound vibration
emanates in a belching, pulsate roar
that shattercrushes Su-Tekh to the ground!
Darkness speaks to th'insolence of Chaos:

Apep

Break

I am primaeval;
of Nun's infinite waters.

Beneath my gaze;
my voice;
my presence –

Fall

Su-Tekh

Snake Of Duat
foe-fiend

your perverse, counterpartly gaze!

I am

I am the thund'rous cloud!

We are
ravaging rage of the cold, northern sky!
I am Chaos! I do not fall to you –
you whose name's no more than darkness, Apep!

Flinching at this challenge, the snake strikes down
in sudden swiftfire electricity!
Too instantaneous to dodge – Su-Tekh
is trapped between the obelisk-length fangs,
clutching at the jaws to avoid a toss
into the frigid space 'tween Nut 'n Geb!
Apep flingthrashes wildly, frenzyfierce –
caught yet now unloosable is its prey!
Defiance draws a dagger from the air,
driving it repeatedly at angles
'to th'inside 'n the outside of the maw!

Th'snake hammers down its head! The black earth caves!
Tsunamic, dirt dust drowns the serpent's sight!
Hissing like the howling of a hailstorm,
Darkness clears the cloud – yet the crater's void
of any sign of the rebellious god...
Whipping 'bout its bulk, Apep seeks its prey;
th'seven still subdued by its hypnosis.
Of river-mud 'n tall papyrus stalks,
the prey, hid w'thin the shallows, crafts a spear –
a shaft strong as stone drives a blade of grass
sharpened to the piercing heat of lightning!

The serpent turns at Su-Tekh's spear's approach,
whipping aside its head to dodge the dart!
But it enters at the neck, blazing through
the overlapping scales, tubular flesh,
tracheal lungs, 'n th'ribs they sit within!
Shattering great vertebrae, there it stops,
disintegrating in electric flame!
The hisshowl screeching-roar the snake emits
rips rippling wounds across the atmosphere!
Torn apart, Apep's bile-blood spills savage,
its head meeting the river at the last!

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