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An Explorer's Dream

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AN EXPLORER'S DREAM

Amy Myrick
- for Jeff

If the world were lain flat
 like old cartographers' maps
 with monster's barred teeth poised in each corner
and time instead shaped into the globe
 rather than this linear dirge of days
 droning onward to yet another end,
would we be able to stop
 walking in these infernal rings -
 the searing death we all know too well -
and strap on our shiny armor,
 trudge forward on the straight path,
 do battle with the monster's teeth,
and see what lies beyond?